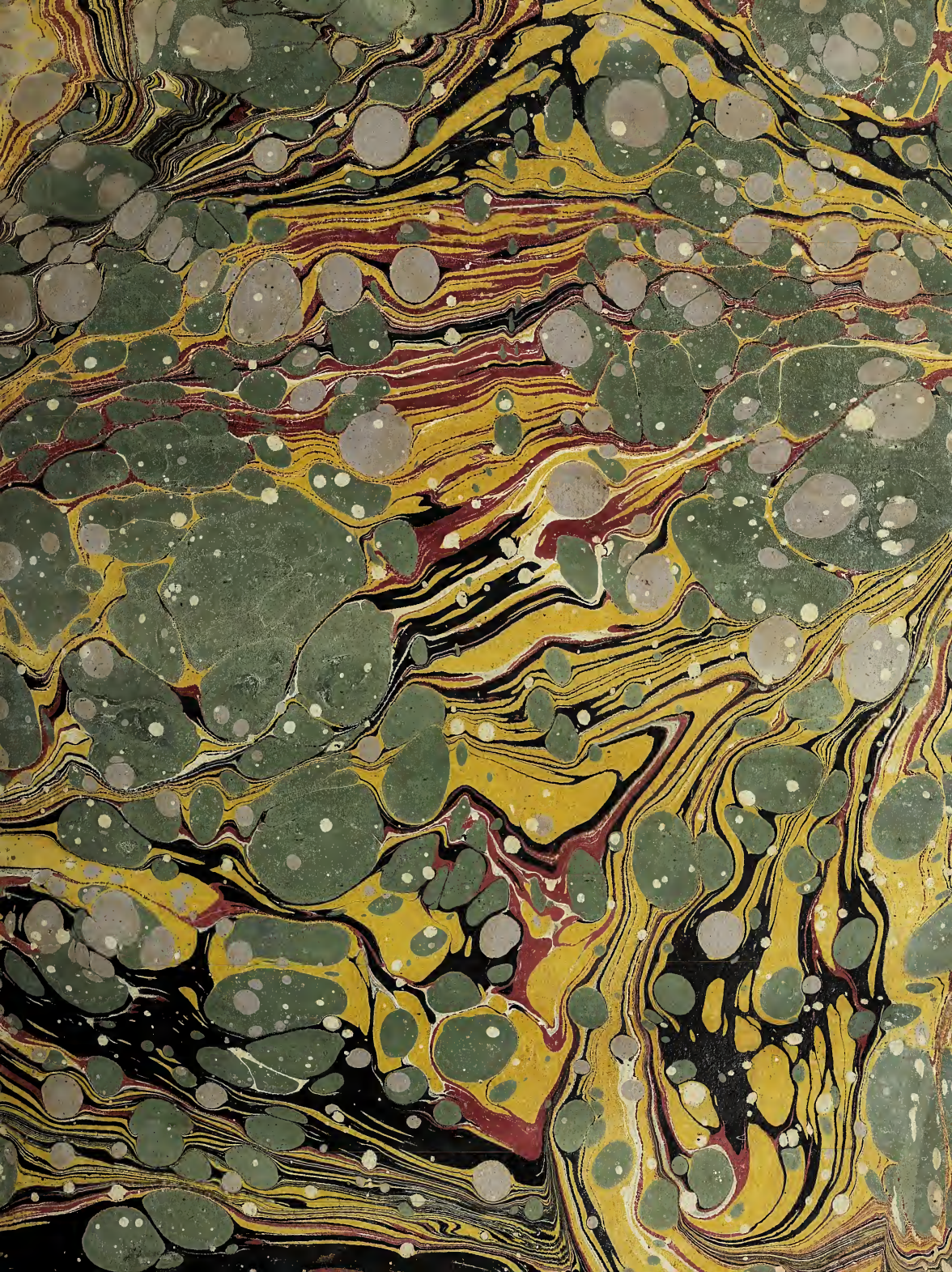






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A
NARRATIVE OF FOUR JOURNEYS
INTO THE COUNTRY OF
THE HOTTENTOTS,
AND
C A F F R A R I A.

IN THE YEARS
ONE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-SEVEN, EIGHT, AND NINE.

ILLUSTRATED WITH A MAP, AND SEVENTEEN COPPER-PLATES.

BY *LIEUT. WILLIAM PATERSON.*

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR J. JOHNSON, No. 72, ST. PAUL'S CHURCH-YARD.

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TO

SIR JOSEPH BANKS, BART.

PRESIDENT OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY;

WHOSE PERSONAL RESEARCHES, AND UNREMITTING LABOURS,

IN THE DIFFERENT BRANCHES OF NATURAL KNOWLEDGE;

WHOSE LIBERAL PROTECTION AND SUPPORT

OF THOSE WHO ARE ENGAGED IN ITS PURSUITS,

HAVE JUSTLY DISTINGUISHED HIM AS

THE PATRON OF NATURAL HISTORY,

T H E S E T R A V E L S

ARE MOST RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED,

BY HIS OBLIGED HUMBLE SERVANT,

W. PATERSON.

ADVERTISEMENT.

IN the following pages, the reader is not presented with a romance under the title of a book of travels. It would not have been very difficult to have depicted an Arcadia among the desarts of Africa; or to have ascribed all the delicacy and refinement of Athens to the inhabitants of Caffraria. It is scarcely an easier task to observe than to invent; and the embellishments of the closet are frequently known to furnish out a very specious publication from very slender materials.

In producing the present work, none of the common arts of compilation have been employed; but this circumstance it is presumed will not lessen its value in the eyes of rational persons: since what it loses in entertainment it gains in authenticity. The public may depend upon it, that they

are here presented with a series of facts, noted down upon the spot, without any after additions, with no ornaments of rhetoric, with nothing to recommend them but the simple form of truth, and perhaps some degree of accuracy.

As the author was so fortunate as to visit in the course of these travels some parts which had never previously been explored by Europeans, he flatters himself he has added a few facts to the general stock of natural and geographical knowledge.

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Page 35, *last line but one, for eighty-eight, read seventy-eight.*

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THE FIRST JOURNEY.

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THERE is certainly no part of the world so little known to Europeans as those regions of Africa, which lie south of the equinoctial line. Neither the restless ambition of ancient Rome, nor the equally enterprising spirit of commerce, have penetrated beyond a certain limit. Satisfied with the conquest and productions of those provinces which bor-

dered on the Red and Mediterranean seas, the Romans considered the other parts of this continent as a barren and useless waste, the possession of which could not increase their glory; and they, therefore, willingly left it in its original obscurity. Nor did the arms and arts of the victorious Arabians spread conquest and knowledge beyond the limits marked by the former conquerors of this country, which, from north to south, extended very little farther than six degrees, or three hundred and sixty miles. Even so late as the sixteenth century, John Leo appears to have known scarcely more than one half of this section of the globe. Of the remainder, much has been since that time discovered, and much still remains unexplored.

Those objects which ambition has in many instances overlooked, or left unattempted, the no less active spirit of industry has adverted to, and attained. This has been in some measure the case with respect to Africa, but in a very confined degree. The hope of gain, which has led the sons of Europe to traverse vast oceans in search of distant, and sometimes imaginary territories, has, in this part of the world, confined its operations to the coast, and the adjacent country. The gold dust, which rolls from the mountains, the ivory, and above all, the devoted victims of tyranny and avarice, have tempted the enterprising mariner frequently to revisit some part of its shores. But here his curiosity, or his desire of gain, have been satisfied, or at least were not sufficiently powerful to tempt him to explore a country where his profits were uncertain, and his fatigue and dangers unavoidable; and

the interior regions of Africa still continue unvalued, only, perhaps, because unknown.

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But if ambition did not tempt the conquerors of the world to extend their empire across the dreary deserts of Africa, nor commerce induce mankind to examine a country, the external appearance of which presents few allurements to the mere lovers of gain, to compensate for the dangers of exploring dreary and scorching regions, inhabited by ravenous beasts and noxious reptiles; yet there is one description of men to whom, with all their terrors, they will afford the most ample gratification. The admirer of Nature has, in this country, a wide field for investigation: here he will discover objects amply sufficient to satisfy the most inquisitive taste: here he will find every object, simple and unadorned; and will behold, in the uncivilized Hottentot, those virtues, which he, perhaps, sought for in civilized society in vain.

Impressed with these sentiments, and incited by the prospect of a country, the productions of which were unknown, I left England with a view to gratify a curiosity, which, if not laudable, was at least innocent.

The period when we arrived at the Cape of Good Hope, being the middle of May, it was too late in the season to go into Table Bay with safety, owing to the variable state of the weather at this time, which is that of the setting in of the Quoad Monsoon, or winter; we anchored, therefore, in the Bay False. Immediately on our arrival, a very heavy fall of

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rain prevented my seeing any part of the country; and towards the end of the month, the hills, near the Cape, were covered with snow for several days. During the winter, therefore, I was only able to indulge myself in short excursions from the Cape town; while I made more ample preparations for a journey into the country when the season might be more favourable.

I was particularly fortunate in meeting with a gentleman, Captain Gordon, (now Colonel) who had travelled in this country some years before, (about 1774) and was lately returned from Holland, as second in command, and appointed to succeed Colonel Du Phren, who was then commander in chief. Colonel Gordon is a gentleman of extensive information in most branches of natural history; and, I believe, is the only person who has any considerable knowledge of that country, being acquainted with the interior parts for near one thousand five hundred miles from the Cape. He had acquired the language of the Hottentots, which, together with his perfect acquaintance with the Dutch language, gave him an advantage over most other travellers.

As Mr. Mason, in his letter to the Royal Society, has described the country about the Cape, it is unnecessary for me to enter into a geographical description, or to say any thing of this tract of territory, except what came immediately under my own observation.

The period which I had proposed for my long journey was the beginning of October, when a settled state of the atmosphere

is generally expected, and when most of the plants are in flower; and, for this undertaking, I had prepared myself by almost daily excursions, which afforded me some general knowledge of the future theatre of my speculations. 1777.
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On the fifth of October 1777, the day before our departure, we were entertained with observing a very uncommon phenomenon, which the people ascribed to a severe north-west wind at sea. Such a prodigious number of fish were driven into Table Bay, particularly Porpoises and Sword-fish, that the whole bay was entirely covered with them, and apparently it might have been crossed on their backs. Near the edge of the bay the water was red with their blood; and several hundreds of the fish were driven on shore, which the people cut up for oil.

On the sixth, having sent our waggon on before us, Captain Gordon and myself left the Cape Town, and proceeded along the bottom of the Table Mountain, leading towards Constantia. We dined at the house of Mr. Becker, which is only about two miles distant from Constantia, being well situated and sheltered from the north-west and south-east winds. This place produces excellent Wine, though the situation is rather low. Constantia is, however, preferable to all other parts of this district, not only because it is rather more elevated, but on account of the nature of the soil, which is a light sandy loam. The whole country abounds with the *Protea Argentea*, and many sorts of *Leucadendrons*, and also *Ericas* and *Gnaphaliums*; many specimens of which have been sent to Europe. This night we rested at a place called Sand Fleet, the pro-

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perty of a rich farmer of the name of Extim. It is unnecessary to enlarge upon the hospitality of these people, since that circumstance has been remarked by all who have travelled through the country. The following day we were detained by the inclemency of the weather.

On the eighth, we continued our journey along the bottom of Bay False, from the point of Moesen Berg, to very near Hottentot Holland, which is a continuation of what is called the Sand Down, a large tract of country lying between the Table Bay and Bay False. Most of it is uninhabitable, on account of a white sand blown up by the south-east winds in very large ridges. Yet there are many shrubs dispersed in different parts. It is the principal place whence they procure their fire-wood at the Cape. It also produces the *Myrica Cerifera*; the berries of which make excellent candles, nearly equal to those of bees wax. Near the middle of the bay is a small hut, where we found some fishermen. It being in the heat of the day, and we much fatigued by travelling through the heavy sand, we rested there about an hour. At first we expected to regale ourselves with oysters; but the surf was so strong that we were unable to approach the banks. From this place we proceeded on our journey, and about sunset arrived at the Erst Rivier, or First River, which has its source from the Stillen Bosch Mountains, and empties itself, at this place, into Bay False. From the late rains we found it almost impassable; but we crossed it with much more safety than we had expected. As soon as it became dark, we were accosted with the howling of the Hyenas, which accompanied us all the way to Hottentot Holland, where

we arrived about nine, at the residence of a Mr. De Wall. This was formerly a place belonging to Governor Adrian Vander Stell, who had introduced many foreign plants into this country, as particularly the Camphor tree. Many of these are from forty to fifty feet in height, and from twelve to thirteen feet in circumference. Hottentot Holland is situated on the north-east side of the Bay False, and surrounded on three sides by lofty mountains; but open to the south-west, where we have a view of the bay. The soil here is not so good for vines as most other places on this side the mountains, being wet and marshy; but it produces excellent corn. The mountains afforded me many beautiful plants, particularly Xeranthimums, Geraniums, Gladioluses, and many others quite new to me. Here may be said to be one of the most difficult passes into the country, called Hottentot Holland's Kloaf.* It is a narrow road cut through the hill, the summit of which appears to be nearly of a height with the Table Land. This is part of the chain of mountains which have their beginning at Cape False, or the Hang Lip, and continue to the north-west for near three hundred miles; and from twenty to forty miles from the sea, several other branches from this chain extend to the interior parts of the country, which I shall afterwards have occasion to describe in the course of my narrative.

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After sending our baggage through the pass, we pursued our journey, on the twelfth, round the Hang Lip, and proceeded to examine the small bays and rocks in the mouth of the Bay False; which at that time were but little known; in particular

* Kloaf, signifies a narrow pass through the mountains.

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that on which the Colebrooke struck some time after. As there is no road along the bay, we took each a small portion of provisions and our cloaks; satisfied that it would be impossible to perform the journey in one day. Notwithstanding the rugged rocks and mountains we were obliged to cross, we took horse as far as it was possible; and much farther than it was safe; for the horse I had, fell with me upon the side of a very high precipice; and it was by mere accident that I saved myself, by laying hold of a shrub which grew out of a rock. About noon we came to the mouth of Stienbrassam River, which takes its name from a species of fish, call Stienbrassam. In the morning we came to a deep bay, not laid down in any of our sea-charts. It opens to the north-west, and is well sheltered from the south-east winds by very lofty mountains. At this time Captain Gordon called it Van Pletenbey's Bay; but since that he has given it another name; and some time after, he discovered a bay to the eastward, which is laid down in all the new charts, and is said to be very safe for shipping. Finding a small stream of excellent water at this place, we agreed to stay all night; and next morning we continued our journey round the Hang Lip, or Cape False. From Hottentot Holland, to this place, the country is quite uninhabited; the whole tract consisting of precipices and rugged mountains. We passed a second bay, which was smaller than the first; though the entrance is clear of rocks, and a fine white sand; this was called Gordon's Bay. About a mile and a half from this we came to a third, which, in Captain Gordon's map, is called Paterfon's Bay; this is much larger than the second, but smaller than the first. The latter is directly under the Hang Lip; and between it and

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Gordon's Bay are lakes of fresh water, and plenty of wood. All these bays open to the north-west, and strike south inland. About two, in the afternoon, we passed Cape False; to the south-east of which is a large plain, covered with many different species of grass; but all of them bad for cattle. Here I found a species of *Erica*, which was quite new, with a spike of long tubular yellow flowers, the most beautiful I had ever seen. There are some wild buffaloes* about this place, of which

* Mr. Pennant's description of this animal is as follows: "The face is covered with long harsh black hair. Chin, underside of the neck, and dewlap, covered with long, pendulous, and coarse hairs of the same colour. From the horns, along the top of the neck, to the middle of the back, is a very thin black mane. Body covered with short, dark, cinerous hair: base of the tail almost naked and cinerous, the rest full of long black hair. Skin thick and tough. Length from nose to tail, of one not of the largest size, is eight feet: the height five and a half. Depth of the body three feet: length of the head one foot nine: of the trunk of the tail one foot nine: to the end of the hairs, two feet nine. Body and limbs thick and strong. They inhabit the interior parts of Africa, north of the Cape of Good Hope; but, I believe, do not extend to the north of the Tropic. They are said to be greatly superior in size to the largest English ox: hang their heads down, and have a most fierce and malevolent appearance. Are excessively fierce and dangerous to travellers. Will lie quietly in wait in the woods, and rush suddenly on passengers, and trample them, their horses, and oxen of draught, under their feet: so that they are to be shunned as the most cruel beasts of this country. They will even return to the attack, and delight to lick the slaughtered bodies. They are prodigiously swift, and so strong, that a young one of three years of age, being placed with six tame oxen in a waggon, could not by their united force be moved from the spot. They are also found in the interior parts of Guinea; but are so fierce and dangerous, that the negroes who are in chase of other animals are fearful of shooting at them. The lion, which can break the back of the strongest domestic oxen at one blow, cannot kill this species, except by leaping on its back, and suffocating it, by fixing its talons about its nose and mouth. The lion often perishes in the attempt; but leaves the marks of its fury about the mouth and nose of the beast. It loves much to roll in the mud, and is fond of the water. The flesh is coarse, but juicy, and has the flavour of venison. They live in great herds, especially in Krake-Kamma, and other deserts of the Cape; and retire during day into the thick forests. Are reckoned good meat. They are called by the Dutch of the Cape, Aurochs.

† Another species of Aurochs is briefly described by the Dutch travellers; who say it is like the common ox, but larger, and of a grey color; that its head is small, and horns short; that

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we saw several; but they were so very shy that we could not approach them. There is also a species of antelope, which the Dutch call Eland*. Towards the evening we came to the mouth of the Palmita† Rivier. The rains to the northward had

the hairs on the breast are curled; that it has a beard like a goat; and that it is so swift, that the Namacques call it Baas, or the Master-courier. They distinguish this from the Gnou, or I should think it the same animal."

* "This animal has thick straight horns, marked with two prominent spiral ribs near two-thirds of their length; smooth towards their end: some are above two feet long: those at the British Museum, with part of their skin adhering, are black. Head of a reddish color, bounded on the cheeks by a dusky line. Ears of a middling size. Forehead broad: nose pointed. On the forehead, a stripe of long loose hairs, and on the lower part of the dewlap, a large tuft of black hair. Along the neck and back, from head to tail, is a black short mane: the rest of the body of a bluish grey, tinged with red. Space between the hoofs and false hoofs black. The tail does not reach to the first joint of the leg; is covered with short cinerous hair; the end tufted with long black hairs. The hoofs are short, surrounded at their junction with the legs with a circle of black hairs. The height to the shoulders is five feet: is thick bodied, and strongly made: but the legs are slender. The females are horned like the males. This species wants the sinus lacrymalis. The Caffres call this species Empophos. If this is the Pacasse, as there is reason to suppose it to be, they vary in color; the Pacasse being white, spotted with red and grey. The Dutch of the Cape call it the Eland or Elk. M. de Buffon, by mistake, calls this the Coudous, which he ought to have bestowed on his Condoma. It inhabits India, Congo, and the southern parts of Africa. Frequents mountainous parts of the country. They live in herds; but the old males are often solitary. They grow very fat, especially about the breast and heart: so that they are easily caught: and when pursued, will sometimes fall dead in the chase. Are slow runners: when roused, always go against the wind, nor can the hunters (even if they front the herd) divert them from their course. The flesh is fine-grained, very delicious, and juicy. The hide is tough: the Hottentots make tobacco-pipes of the horns.

There is another species with straight horns nine inches long, pointing backwards, with two spiral ribs: ears broad: color a deep tawny: beneath each eye a white spot: sides most singularly marked with two transverse bands of white, crossed by two others from the back to the belly: the rump with three white lines pointing downwards on each side: the thighs spotted with white: tail ten inches long, covered with long rough hairs. Inhabits the plains and woods of Senegal, living in large herds. This is called at the Cape, the Bonte Bock, or spotted goat." Pennant, vol. I. page 71.

† A plant common in that river.

raised it so high, and the course was so rapid, that it was with difficulty we were able to swim through it. We travelled the whole night in very heavy rain, with lightning and loud claps of thunder. About two in the morning we came to the Knoflick* Kraals Rivier, which takes its name from a species of wild garlick. It was so very dark, that in the first attempt I made to pass the river, I found myself out of my depth; and with great difficulty got out: it was therefore necessary to remain where we were till day-light. We made several fruitless essays to kindle a fire; but every thing was so wet, that the utmost we could produce was smoke. The rain continued very hard; and in this uncomfortable situation, our anxiety for the light of day may be easily conceived. We had now been twenty-four hours without eating; as soon as we could see, therefore, we crossed the river; and at nine in the morning came to the house of Michael Otto, where we were hospitably received; got to bed, and had our clothes dried; and after a few hours sleep took some refreshment. This place is situated between the Hottentot Holland mountains, and a steep sandy pass called, the How Hook; which may be said to be a continuation of the strong pass which I mentioned before. It produces corn and very good wine; much better than is generally found to the eastward of the Hottentot mountains. The soil is of a fine rich clay; but the pasture is coarse, and seldom agrees with cattle, and least of all with sheep. Fruit is, in general, about three weeks later in ripening here, than about the Cape. At two we proceeded on our journey, through the How Hook, collecting plants

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* Garlick.

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in our road. Here we met with a gentleman who had been at Zwelendam, and was on his return to the Cape. He informed us, that the day before he had passed a place where they killed a large lion, and warned us to be on our guard, as more of those fierce animals were still lurking about the same place: for lions are found between this place and the Cape, which is distant about one hundred English miles. After parting with our friend, we crossed the Bott Rivier, and about eight in the evening came to the Swart Berg, or Blackhill, where there is a warm bath. The company have erected a house for the reception of those who chuse to use the bath; but travellers generally reside at a farm-house, which is little more than a mile distant. The hill, whence the spring issues, is composed of a species of granite, with much iron. The bath, used by the Europeans, is in temperature an hundred and thirty-three degrees by Farenheit's thermometer; but may be reduced to any degree of heat by a stream of cold water, which runs close by the place: at a little distance from this there is another for slaves and Hottentots, the heat of which is one hundred and fifteen degrees. We found several people here from the Cape, using the water of the bath, which they believe to be a specific in all cases. The country about it is very pleasant; and there is excellent pasture for cattle. This district abounds in game; and particularly in that species of antelope called by the Dutch, Bonta Bock*. Partridges are also very numerous here. From this place we directed our course eastward, leaving the river Zondereynds Berg on our left hand, passing

* "The Buntbok, somewhat less, but more corpulent in proportion than the Hartbeest, is the Antelope Scripta of Pallas, and the Guib of Buffon." Sparman, 2d edit. vol. I. p. 130.

several pleasant farms, and in a day's journey arrived at the first Hottentot* Kraal, which consisted of six huts built in a 1777.
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* Speaking of the Hottentots, Mr. Sparman, says, "With regard to their persons, they are as tall as most Europeans; and as for their being in general more slender, this proceeds from their being more stinted and curtailed in their food, and likewise from their not using themselves to hard labour. But that they have small hands and feet compared with the other parts of their bodies, has been remarked by no one before, and may, perhaps, be looked upon as a characteristic mark of this nation.

The root of the nose is for the most part very low, by which means the distance of the eyes from each other appears to be greater than in Europeans. The tip of the nose likewise is pretty flat. The iris is scarcely ever of a light colour, but has a dark brown cast, which sometimes approaches to black.

Their skin is of a yellowish brown hue, which something resembles that of an European who has the jaundice in a high degree; however, this colour is not in the least observable in the whites of the eyes. One does not find such thick lips among the Hottentots as among their neighbours the Negroes, the Caffres, and the Mozambiques. In fine, their mouths are of a middling size, and almost always furnished with a set of the finest teeth that can be seen; and, taken together with the rest of their features, as well as their shape, carriage, and every motion, in short their tout ensemble, indicates health and content, or at least an air of sans souci. At the same time, this careless mien discovers marks of alacrity and resolution; qualities which the Hottentots, in fact, can exhibit upon occasion.

Their heads one would suppose to be covered with a black, though not very close, frizzled kind of wool, if the natural harshness of it did not show, that it was hair, if possible, more woolly than that of the negroes. If in other respects there should, by great chance, be observed any traces of a beard, or of hair on any other parts of the body, such as are seen on the Europeans, it is, however, very trifling, and generally of the same kind as that on the head."

He then refutes an erroneous opinion concerning the men being different from others, and adds, "The women have no parts uncommon to the rest of their sex." With respect to their dress, and method of painting themselves, he remarks; "the latter (if painting it may be called) consists in besmearing their bodies all over most copiously with fat, in which there is mixed up a little foot. This is never wiped off; on the contrary, I never saw them use any thing to clean their skins, excepting that when, in greasing the wheels of their waggons, their hands were besmeared with tar and pitch, they used to get it off very easily with cow-dung, at the same time rubbing their arms into the bargain up to the shoulders with this cosmetic: so that as the dust and other filth, together with their footy ointment and the sweat of their bodies, must necessarily, notwithstanding it is continually wearing off, in some measure adhere to the skin, it contributes not a little to conceal the natural hue of the latter, and at the same time to change it from a bright amber-brown to a brownish-yellow colour obscured with filth and nastiness.

Besides the pleasure the Hottentots enjoy in besmearing their bodies from head to foot, they likewise perfume themselves with powder of herbs, with which they powder both their heads and bodies, rubbing it in all over them when they besmear themselves. The odour of it is at the
fama

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circular form. These people hire themselves, as they are wanted, to the Dutch. At a little distance from this is a place belong-

same time rank and aromatic (Narcotico-seu Papaverino-spirans) and seems to come nearest to that of the poppy mixed with spices. The plants used for this purpose are different species of the *Diosma*, called by the Hottentots *Bucku*, and considered by them as possessing great virtues in curing disorders. Some of these species are very common round about the Cape; but one particular sort, which I am told grows about Goud's-Rivier, is said to be so valuable, that no more than a thimble full of it is given in exchange for a lamb.

The Hottentots, with their skins besmeared with grease and foot, and *Bucku*-powder, are by this means in a great measure defended from the influence of the air, and may in a manner reckon themselves dressed. In other respects, both men and women are wont to appear quite undressed; indeed, I may say naked, except a trifling covering, with which they always conceal part of their bodies.

With the men this covering consists of a bag or purse made of skin, hanging quite open, the hollow part of which seems designed to receive that which with us modesty requires to be concealed; but as this piece of furniture is only fastened by a small part of its upper end to a narrow belt, in other respects hanging quite loose, it is but a very imperfect concealment; and when the wearer is walking, or otherwise in motion, it is none at all. They call this purse by the Dutch name of *Jackall*, the name of an animal of the fox kind common in that country, as it is almost always prepared of the skin of this creature, with the hairy side turned outward.

As another covering, which decency requires of the men, we ought perhaps to consider the two leather straps, which generally hang from the bottom of the chine of the back down upon the thighs; each of them being of the form of an *Isosceles* triangle, with their points or upper ends fastened to the belt just mentioned, and with their bases, at farthest three fingers broad, hanging carelessly down. These straps have very little dressing bestowed upon them, so that they make somewhat of a rattling as the Hottentot runs along; and probably by fanning him, serve to produce an agreeable coolness. The only and real intention, however, of this part of their dress, is said to be to close a certain orifice when they sit down. They are at that time likewise brought forwards, so as to cover the little flap above described; for, said they to me, these parts should by no means be uncovered when one sits, especially at meals. Nevertheless, I observed them sometimes neglect this decent custom.

Among the Hottentots, as well as in all probability among the rest of Mankind dispersed over the whole globe, we must acknowledge the fair sex to be the most modest; for the females of this nation, cover themselves much more scrupulously than the men. They seldom content themselves with one covering, but almost always have two, and very often three. These are made of a prepared and well-greased skin, and are fastened about their bodies with a thong, almost like the aprons of our ladies. The outermost is always the largest, measuring from about six inches to a foot over. This is likewise generally the finest and most showy, and frequently adorned with glass beads strung in different figures, in a manner that shows, even among the unpolished Hottentots, the superior neatness of the fair sex in works of ornament, as well as their powers of invention and their disposition to set off their persons to the best advantage.

The

ing to the company, called the Tyger Hock, where we stayed all night. In the morning we proceeded to the eastward, 1777.
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The outermost apron, which is chiefly intended for show and parade, reaches about half way down the thighs. The middle one is about a third, or one half less, and is said by them to be necessary by way of reserve, and as an additional entrenchment of modesty, when their gala-garment is laid aside. The third, or innermost, which is scarcely larger than one's hand, is said to be useful at certain periods, which are much less troublesome to the fair sex here than in Europe. All these aprons, however, even to that which is decorated with beads, are not less besmeared and greasy than their bodies.

In fine, the garment worn by the Hottentots for covering their bodies is a sheep-skin, with the woolly side turned inwards; this pellisse, or else a cloak made of some smaller fur, is tied forwards over the breast. When the weather is not cold, they let it hang loose over their shoulders in a careless manner, when it reaches down to the calves of the legs, leaving the lower part of the legs and thighs bare; but in rainy and cold weather they wrap it round them; so that the fore part of the body likewise, is in some measure covered with it as far as below the knees.

As one sheep-skin alone is not sufficient for this purpose, there is a piece sewed, or rather fastened on with a thong, sinew or catgut, to the top of each side. In warmer weather they wear this cloak sometimes with the hairy side outwards, but in that case they often take it off entirely and carry it on their arms. In general, the Hottentots do not burden themselves with a great many changes of their cloaks or Krofses, (as they call them in broken Dutch) but are content with one which serves them at the same time for clothing and bedding; and in this they lie on the bare ground, drawing themselves up in a heap so close, especially when the weather is cold, that this Krofs (as they call it) or Karofs, is quite sufficient to cover them.

The cloak, or Karofs, which is used by the women for the same purpose, does not differ from those used by the men in any other respect, than that the women have a long peak to their Karofses, which they turn up, forming with it a hood or little pouch, with the hairy side inwards. In this they carry their little children, to which they now and then throw the breast over their shoulders, a practice that likewise prevails with some other nations.

The men in general wear no peculiar covering on their heads. I scarce remember to have seen above two, that had a cap made of greased skin, the fur of which had been taken off in the preparation. Those who live nearest to the colonists, fancy the European hats, wearing them slouched all round, or else with one side turned up.

The women in like manner frequently go bare-headed. When they cover their heads, it is with a cap in the form of a short truncated cone. It is made without any seam, of the segment of some animal's stomach, and is as black as foot mixed up with fat can make it. These are frequently so prepared, as to look as if they were shaggy, and others again to resemble velvet, and upon the whole make a tolerably handsome appearance.

Over this cap they sometimes wear another ornament, consisting of an oval wreath, or, if the reader pleases, a crown made of a buffalo's hide, with the brown hair upwards. This is about four fingers in height, and surrounds the head so as to reach a little way down upon the forehead,

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through a flat country covered with grafs, having the river Zondereynd* on our left hand. In the afternoon we faw fe-

* Endlefs River.

forehead, and the fame depth in the neck behind, without covering the upper part of the cap above defcribed. Both the rims of this wreath, as well as the lower one on which it refts, as the upper one, are always fmooth and even, and each of them fet with a row of fmall fhells, of the Cyprea kind, to the number of more than thirty, in fuch a manner, that being placed quite clofe to each other, their beautiful white enamel, together with their mouths, is turned outwards. Between thefe two rows of fhells run one or two more in a parallel line, or elfe waved or indented in various fancies. It may eafily be imagined, what a pretty effect thefe fhells have, projecting from the brown fur of the buffalo's fkin, and at the fame time, with what additional charms a greafy Hottentot dame appears in one of thefe caps and wreaths, which, however, is to the full as greafy as herfelf.

The ears of the Hottentots are never adorned with any pendant or other ornament hanging from them, any more than the nofe, as they both are among other favages; this latter, however, is fometimes, by way of greater ftate, marked with a black fteak of foot, or, more rarely indeed, with a large fpot of red-lead; of which latter, on high days and holidays, they likewife put a little on their cheeks.

The necks of the men are bare, but thofe of the women are decorated with what is, in their opinion, a great ornament. It confifts of a thong of undrefsed leather, upon which are ftrung eight or ten fhells. Appearing collectively in the form of a necklace, they certainly adorn the greafy part they are hung upon, though perhaps not in proportion to the price at which they are obtained; for thefe fhells are commonly fold for not lefs than a fheep a piece, as it is faid they are to be had no where elfe than on the moft diftant coaft of Caffria.

Another ornament in ufe with both fexes, is rings on their arms and legs. Moft of thefe rings are made of thick leather ftraps, generally cut in a circular fhape, which by being beat and held over the fire, are rendered tough enough to retain the curvature that is given them. It is thefe rings that have given rife to the almoft univerfally received notion, that the Hottentots wrap guts about their legs, in order to eat them occafionally. The men wear from one to five or fix of thefe rings on their arms, juft above the wrift, but feldom any on their legs. The matrons of a higher rank frequently have a confiderable number of them both on their arms and legs, efpecially on the latter, fo that they are covered with them from the feet up to their knees. Thefe rings are of various thickneffes, viz. fometimes to that of a goofe-quill, and fometimes two or three times that fize. Now and then they are made of pieces of leather, forming one entire ring, fo that the arms and feet muft be put through them when the wearer wifhes to put them on. Upon the legs they are ftrung on, fmall and great, one with another, without any peculiar nicety; and are fo much larger than the legs, as to fhake off and get twifted, when the wearer walks or is otherwife in motion.

veral herds of Bonta Bocks and Zebras*; and in many places the track of lions. In the afternoon we crossed the Breed ^{1777.}
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It may easily be imagined, that these rings give the good Hottentot matrons a world of trouble, as well in the wear as in the preparation; and at the same time are not a little clumsy and ponderous, not to mention several other inconveniencies. But such is the peculiar turn of mankind, that from the Hottentot, as unconstrained as rude in his manners, to those nations which carry the arts and sciences to the highest degree of perfection, people are universally apt to fall into such modes of dress, as are not only useless, but likewise in a great measure imprison their limbs and bodies.

Rings of iron or copper, but especially of brass, of the size of a goose-quill, are considered as genteeler or more valuable than those made of leather. They are, however, sometimes worn along with these latter, to the number of six or eight at a time, particularly on the arms. The girls are not allowed to use any rings, till they are marriageable. A traveller, that was passing through the district of Zwellendam, endeavoured to assail the chastity of a Hottentot girl, about sixteen or seventeen years of age, but in every other respect quite a woman: it is said, however, she refused his presents and offers, principally for this reason, that the old people in her Craal had not yet invested her with the privilege of wearing rings. Whether this same law prevails in every Craal, I cannot pretend to say; but it does not seem extremely probable to me, that the girls in every craal are so obedient to the laws.

The Hottentots seldom wear any shoes. (Those that are in use with the Hottentots hereabouts, as well as a great many more of their countrymen, are of the form represented by Mr. Sparrman.) The same are worn likewise by most of the African peasants, and, as I have since heard, by the Esthonians and Livonians, and also by some Finlanders; so that I cannot say for certain, whether they are the invention of the Hottentots, or brought to them by the Dutch.

The

* Mr. Pennant describes it, "With a short erect mane. The head, and body are striped downwards with lines of brown, on a pale buff ground: the legs and thighs striped crossways. Tail like that of an ass, furnished with long hairs at the end. Size of a common mule.

This most elegant of quadrupeds: inhabits from Congo and Angola, across Africa, to Abyssinia, and southward as low as the Cape. Inhabits the plains, but on sight of men, run into the woods and disappear. Are gregarious, vicious, untameable, useless: vastly swift: is called by the Portuguese, Burro di Matta, or wild ass.

The Quacha is striped like the former on the head and body; but with fewer lines. The flanks spotted; the rump plain; the ground color of the head, neck, body and rump, a bright bay: the belly, thighs and legs white, and free from all marks.

This species has hitherto been supposed to have been the female of the zebra; but later observations prove that the male and female zebra are marked alike. This differs likewise in being thicker and stronger made, and in being more tractable; for instance, one had been so far broken as to draw in a cart."

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Rivier, or Broad River, where there is a punt or ferry. Here the river Zondereynd joins the Broad River, which, winding

The leather of which these shoes is made is undressed, with the hairy side outwards; and undergoes no other preparation, than that of being beat and moistened. If it be of a thick or stout sort, as for example, of buffalo's hide, it is besides kept some hours in cow-dung, by which means it is rendered very soft and pliable. Afterwards some kind of grease is made use of for the same purpose. The shoes are then made of this leather in the following manner: they take a piece of leather of a rectangular form, something longer and broader than the foot of the person for whom the shoes are intended. The two foremost corners are doubled up together, and sewed down, so as to cover the forepart of the foot. This seam may be avoided, and the shoes may be made much neater at the toes, by fitting immediately over them a cap taken from the membrane in the knee joint of the hind leg of some animal. Now, in order to make this piece of skin or leather rise up to the height of an inch on both sides of the foot, and close it in neatly, it is pierced with holes at small distances all round the edge, as far as the hind-quarters, and through these holes is passed a thong, by which the rim is drawn up into gathers; farther, in order to make strong hind-quarters, the backpart of the piece of leather is doubled inwards, and then raised up and pressed along the heel. The ends of the thong, or gathering-string, are then threaded on both sides through the upper edge of the hind-quarters to the height of about two inches; they are then carried forwards, in order to be drawn through two of the above-mentioned holes on the inside of each rim. They are then tied over the instep, or, if it be thought necessary to tie the shoe still faster, they are carried crossways over the instep, and so downwards under the thong, which comes out from the hind-quarters, then upwards again over the ankle, and even round the leg itself, if the wearer chuses.

Shoes of this kind are certainly not without their advantages. They fit as neat upon the foot as a stocking, and at the same time preserve their form. They are easily kept soft and pliable, by constantly wearing them. Should they at any time grow rather hard above the edge, this is easily remedied by beating them and greasing them a little. They are extremely light and cool, by reason that they do not cover so much of the foot as a common shoe does. They wear very well, as they are without any seam, and the soles, or rather bottoms of the shoes, are both tough and yielding. As shoes of the common tanned leather are burnt up, as it were, and are apt to slide about in the scorching African sands, and at the same time are easily torn in a stony and rocky soil, these field shoes, as they are called, made of almost raw leather, are much more durable. These may be likewise had at a much inferior price, as the leather used in the making of them is entirely undressed; and a man can make himself a pair of them in the space of an hour or two. Some advantage, especially with regard to economy, would, in my opinion, accrue, if the use of these shoes was, in some measure, introduced amongst us, particularly in summer-time. To sailors they would seem, as being very light, to be particularly useful. I have brought home with me a pair of them, that I wore in my expedition into the country, that they may serve for a model, in case any body should be inclined to have a pair made by way of making

to the southward, empties itself by the Pott Berg in Strugs* Bay; and soon after, crossing the ferry, we arrived at Zwel- 1777.
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* Ostrich.

making a trial of them. Whatever is useful, whether it comes from Paris or the country of the Hottentots, alike deserves our attention and imitation.

The Hottentots who live in these parts, or within the boundaries of the Dutch colonies, seldom make use of any weapons. Here and there, indeed, a man will furnish himself with a javelin, by way of defence against the wolves: this is called a *Hassagai*.

Their habitations are as their dress, and equally adopted to the wandering pastoral life they lead in those parts. In fact, they scarcely merit any other name than that of huts; though, perhaps, as spacious and eligible as the tents and dwelling-places were of the patriarchs of old, at least they are sufficient for the Hottentot's wants and desires; who may therefore be considered as a happy man, in being able in this point likewise so easily to satisfy them. The great simplicity of them is, perhaps, the reason, why in a Hottentot *craal*, or village, the huts are all built exactly alike; and that one meets there with a species of architecture, that does not a little contribute to keep envy from insinuating itself under their roofs. In fact, the equality of fortune and happiness in some measure enjoyed by these people, cannot but have a singular effect in preventing their breasts from being disturbed by this baneful passion.

Every hut is disposed in the following manner. Some of them are of a circular, and others of an oblong shape, resembling a round bee-hive or a vault. The ground-plot is from eighteen to twenty-four feet in diameter. The highest of them are so low, that even in the center of the arch, it is scarcely ever possible for a middle-sized man to stand upright. But neither the lowness of the hut, nor that of the door, which is barely three feet high, can perhaps be considered as any inconvenience to a Hottentot, who finds no difficulty in stooping and crawling on all fours, and who is at any time more inclined to lie down than stand.

The fire place is in the middle of each hut, by which means the walls are not so much exposed to danger from fire. From this situation of their fire-place, the Hottentots likewise have this additional advantage, that when they sit or lie in a circle round the fire, the whole company equally enjoys the benefit of its warmth.

The door, low as it is, is the only place that lets in the day-light; and, at the same time the only outlet that is left for the smoke. The Hottentot, inured to it from his infancy, sees it hover round him, without feeling the least inconvenience arising from it to his eyes: while, rolled up like a hedgehog, and wrapped up snug in his skin, he lies at the bottom of his hut, quite at his ease in the midst of his cloud, excepting that he is now and then obliged to peep out from beneath his sheep-skin in order to stir the fire, or perhaps to light his pipe, or else sometimes to turn the steak he is broiling over the coals.

The materials for these huts are by no means difficult to be procured; and the manner of putting them together being both neat and inartificial, merits commendation in a Hottentot, and is very suitable to his character. The frame of this arched roof, as I have described it
above,

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lenden, which is the residence of a Lend Droft, or chief justice. It is situated under the chain of mountains which begin near the bay Alagoa, their direction west north-west. The climate in this country differs much from that at the Cape; for it is seldom that the south-east winds blow hard; but there are often storms from the north-west. This being the time when the boors* meet for exercising, we remained here a few days; during which time I made several excursions along the mountains and through the woods. At this time very few of the arboreous plants were in flower, so that I could

* Farmers.

above, is composed of slender rods or sprays of trees. These rods, being previously bent into a proper form, are laid, either whole or pieced, some parallel with each other, others crosswise; they are strengthened, by binding others round them in a circular form with withies. These withies, as well as the rods themselves, are taken, as well as I can recollect, chiefly from the *Cliffortia Conoides*, which grows plentifully in this country near the rivers. Large mats are then laid very neatly over this lattice-work, so as perfectly to cover the whole. The aperture which is left for the door is closed, whenever there is occasion for it, with a skin fitted to it, or a piece of matting. These mats are made of a kind of cane or reed. The reeds, being laid parallel to each other, are fastened together with sinews or catgut, or else some kind of packthread, such as they have had an opportunity of procuring from the Europeans. They have it, therefore, in their power, to make their mats as long they chuse, and at the same time as broad as the length of the rush will admit of, viz. from six to ten feet. This same kind of matting is now made use of likewise by the colonists, next to the tilts of their waggons, by way of preventing the sail-cloth from being rubbed and worn by them, as well as of assisting to keep out the rain.

When a Hottentot has a mind to take his house down and remove his dwelling, he lays all his mats, skins, and sprays on the backs of his cattle, which to a stranger makes a monstrous, unwieldy, and, indeed, ridiculous appearance.

The order or distribution of these huts in a craal or clan, is most frequently in the form of a circle with the doors inwards; by this means a kind of yard or court is formed, where the cattle is kept on nights. The milk, as soon as taken from the cow, is put to other milk which is curdled, and is kept in a leather sack; of this the hairy side, being considered as the cleanlier, is turned inwards: so that the milk is never drank while it is sweet. In certain northern districts, such as Roggeveld, or Bokkeveld, where the land is, as it is called, Carrow, or dry and parched, the Hottentots, as well as the colonists, are shepherds."

not preserve any perfect specimens. The Piper Cordifolia is very common in the woods. I found some beautiful specimens of the Helenidas and Phyllicas. The whole country affords good pasture for cattle, and produces plenty of corn and wine: the soil is a hard yellowish clay intermixed with rotten rocks.

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We left Zwellendam on the twentieth, and directed our course about east north-east, towards the Reed Valley. About four in the afternoon we crossed the Buffalye Agte* Rivier, so called from its being formerly a noted place for hunting buffaloes; but they seldom make their appearance at present in this part of the country. Here the river winds to the southward, and joins the Breed Rivier. Towards the evening we lost our road, and with some difficulty got to the Reed Valley. This place belongs to the Dutch company, and is employed for breeding cattle; most of their draught oxen are reared here: it also produces wood. It is distant from Zwellendam about twelve miles, and from the Cape one hundred and twenty. Here we overtook our waggon, which was so much injured by the journey, that we were necessarily detained a few days in order to repair it. During our stay, I added much to my collection, and amused myself by joining in the chase of the Bonta Bocks, which are found in this place in great numbers, as well as of the Capra Dorcas of Linnæus, and the Equus Zebra. The Reed Valley likewise produces great plenty of wild fowl, such as partridges of several kinds.

* Agte, to hunt,

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We staid here with the hospitable Mr. Tunyirs, the company's overseer, till the twenty-fifth, and proceeded to the farm of Mr. Jacob Van Renan, which is the most beautiful of any I ever saw in this country; and, from the industry and ingenuity of Mr. Van Renan, I am well convinced, it will be brought to produce every thing as good as at the Cape.

On the twenty-sixth, we proceeded to Groot Faders Bosch, or Grand Fathers Wood, where we were obliged to stop for a few hours on account of the rain. We sent our waggon the best road to the Plata Kloaf, and went a nearer way ourselves, which, however, was so very slippery that we could not possibly ride. We crossed the Doven* Hocks Rivier, and late in the evening came to a farmer's house, situated close to the pass, or Kloaf. This district is called the Land of Egypt, and apparently contains about thirteen farms, which are dispersed at the distance of from four to six miles from each other: here we were regaled with excellent fruit, particularly oranges, and some European fruits. Our waggon not arriving detained us till the twenty-eighth, which gave me an opportunity of examining the country, where I found many curious plants. I observed, that in consequence of the rains, the white ants (with which the whole country abounds) were all out, and with wings. Several of the Hottentots, and slaves, were collecting these insects, which I found, upon inquiry, were intended for food. Prejudice, indeed, alone has prevented the Europeans from making a similar use of them; for, in my

* Pigeon-house River.

different journeys in this country, I have sometimes been under the necessity of using them as food, and found them far from disagreeable. These insects are very particularly described by the late Mr. Smeathman, under the name of Termites. Great differences are observed in the white ants, according to the soil and climate in which they are found. In the East Indies they prove extremely destructive to the wood; but at the Cape they are never known to injure any vegetable substance, except the grass in those places where they most abound. It is not by devouring the grass that they occasion its destruction, but by raising a number of hills which impede the progress of vegetation. In my observations on India, I shall mention them more particularly. We now proceeded to leave this uncommonly delightful and fertile territory, extending along the south side of the range of mountains, and terminating near the Krome* Rivier, to enter into a country which is, perhaps, one of the most barren in the world. This is called, the Channa Land; and derives its name from a species of Mezembryanthimum, which is called Channa by the natives, and is exceedingly esteemed among them. They make use of it both in chewing and in smoking; when mixed with the Dacka is very intoxicating, and which appeared to be of that species of hemp which is used in the East Indies by the name of Bang.

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We were supplied on the morning we set out with fresh oxen, to take our waggon over the mountain, which proved so rugged, that our waggon overset; but it received no damage.

* Crooked River.

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Upon reaching the summit of the mountain, we were presented on the south with a view of the sea, and the beautiful country we had lately left; and on the north we saw the Channa Land and Karo. After the heat of the day had abated, we directed our course east north-east, through a very rugged country, leaving the large chain of mountains on our right hand; and, at the distance of about forty miles, we observed another chain on our left. Though this country has a very barren appearance, yet it abounds with plants, such as the Euphorbium, Crassula, the Mezembranthium, and many species of Geranium. The climate differs much from that of the opposite side of the mountains; it seldom rains here, except in the summer, when it is accompanied by thunder. The soil is of a yellow loam, intermixed with fragments of rotten rocks. In the evening we came to a place, called Klip Rivier, or Rocky River, where we remained all night; and in the morning purchased a sheep, which cost us six Dutch shillings, equal to three English. We pursued our journey eastward, and at three in the afternoon came to a peasant's house. The people, on seeing us, went away, as they were not accustomed to strangers; and it was with some difficulty that Captain Gordon could persuade them to return to their own habitation. He informed them, that we were come from the Cape, and the next village being too far distant, requested the favour of suffering us to remain there for the night: this they granted; and, notwithstanding their former shyness, behaved to us with the greatest hospitality.

Early in the morning, of the thirtieth, we proceeded east half north, through an extremely rugged path; and, about one

in the afternoon came to the Great River, where we dined under the shelter of a Mimosa. After dinner we crossed the river, and towards the evening came to a second, called Tfunice Cama by the Hottentots; and by the Dutch, Gouds Rivier, or Gold River, which has a southerly direction, and empties itself to the westward of Catharina Bay in the Indian ocean. This river is dangerous for strangers to cross, from the number of large pools which formerly had been inhabited by the Hippopotamus Amphibius, though these animals have now deserted their ancient residence, and are seldom met with in this place. We continued travelling in the night through a country of which both of us were totally ignorant, till about one o'clock in the morning, when observing no signs of inhabitants, we agreed to rest till morning at the side of a small brook, which we found to be Slang Rivier, or Snake River. In the course of this day we travelled about forty miles.

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On the thirty-first, we directed our course easterly, through a barren country, which afforded less appearance of vegetation than any we had hitherto seen. In the afternoon we came to a small establishment, situated under the Atquas Kloaf, on a narrow brook, named the Saffron River, where we rested all night; and next day we received fresh oxen, and directed our course north north-east, towards the Elephants River. At noon we arrived at a place called Poverty, situated on the same river, where we rested during the heat of the day. In the afternoon we crossed it at a place where it is about half a mile broad. The banks of this, as well as of most other rivers in this country, are covered with a species of Mimosa, and

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different species of *Rhus*. We continued our journey till late in the evening, when our waggon overturned, from a precipice upwards of fifty feet high, which compelled us to remain till day-light. A draughtsman of Captain Gordon's, who was in the waggon, had his thigh much bruised; but was not so much injured as might have been expected from such a fall. We left our baggage lying at the foot of the precipice till the following day; and observing a house on the opposite side of the river, we agreed to stay there the remaining part of the night. At day-light we examined our waggon, and found every thing perfectly safe. The whole of this country is extremely barren, except a few farms which are situated on small streams of water; and produce corn, though not in great abundance. This uncommon degree of sterility must be principally ascribed to the want of water; for the supply of which the inhabitants wholly depend upon the rain; there being very few natural springs, and the water which these afford is in general very brackish.

We began the month of November, by directing our course east by south, and at eleven came to the house of an European, where we rested all day. Here I made some addition to my collection of plants, which continued in tolerable order.

From this place our course was easterly, during the whole of the next day, leaving the *Comnassia** Berg on our right hand, and the *Swart Berg* on our left. We found here some hot

* A species of *Rhus*.

baths, to which we were directed by observing two farmers making use of them: one of the men had been bit by a snake, and was considerably recovered, though his leg remained much swelled, and could not bear any fatigue. These baths are impregnated with a large quantity of iron; and all along the mountains are very thick stratas of that ore. The thermometer rose in the different baths, from one hundred and five to one hundred and eight. In the afternoon we pursued our journey, the Comnassia Berg bearing north-west by north to south-east by south, and ending south-west by south, about two leagues from the baths. We found here many Ostriches and Koedoes, one of the latter we shot; but, being on our journey, we had no time to make any useful observations upon it. These animals are about the size, or rather larger than our deer, and of a mouse colour, with three white stripes over the back: the male has very large twisted horns; but the female has none: their flesh is good for food. In the evening we arrived at a place called by the Hottentots, Ttimeko, or Ostrich Leg. Bread is unknown to the people in this part of the country, who chiefly subsist on flesh and milk: they are of a very hospitable disposition, and very happy to see strangers. In this place I found some very beautiful species of *Polygalæ* and *Gerania*, &c.

On the third, we were supplied with a team of fresh cattle; and, after travelling the whole day, towards the evening, we observed fresh traces of lions, which excited both our attention and vigilance. Captain Gordon and I rode before the waggon, with our guns loaded, lest we should be assaulted by these fe-

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recious animals. About midnight we came to a lake of brackish water, where we agreed to remain till morning. We secured our cattle in the usual manner of the country, by tying them round the waggon, and making fires on the outside all round us, to prevent an attack from the wild beasts. This business was no sooner performed, and our little caravan left to the enjoyment of safety, than we were surprised by a noise of splashing in the water, as if something were coming towards us. Captain Gordon supposed it to announce the approach of wild beasts; and indeed we had nothing else to expect, as this country abounds with them, and particularly with lions. After some time passed in great anxiety, we at length found the noise proceeded from a calf which had strayed from a herd of cattle belonging to an European who lived about eight miles distant from this place. Being now relieved from our fears, we endeavoured to get some rest; but passed the remainder of the night very disagreeably, from a heavy storm of thunder and lightning, which was attended with much rain.

Early in the morning we proceeded on our journey through an extensive plain, called the Beer* Valley; and about nine in the morning we came to some miserable huts in the stile of the Hottentots. Here we found an old German, who had attached himself to one of the Hottentot tribes, and had resided with them for about twenty years. His garment was composed of sheeps skins, similar to those which are worn by the natives; and his method of living was the same. This man

* Bear.

told me, that every three or four years he went to the Cape with a few cattle for sale, and with the produce of his goods purchased powder, lead, and trinkets for his Hottentots. This place abounds with lions more than any other of the inhabited parts of this country. The old German (whose name was Nuwenhoufen) had shot several before we arrived; some of which we saw of a very large size. 1777.
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As I was not in a good state of health, and my collection much increased, I determined to part with my friend Captain Gordon, who proceeded on towards the Sneu Berg, or Snow Mountain, and I remained a few days for the recovery of my health. The good old German furnished me with a hut during my stay, and behaved with great hospitality. On the eleventh, I took leave of my host, and returned to Tsimeko, where I met with Mr. Lyfter, surveyor from the Cape, with other gentlemen, who were making a survey of that country for the government, which they extended to the Great Fish River that divides the Caffres from the Hottentots. I added considerably to my collection at this place, and made some stay for the purpose of examining the mountains, which seemed covered with many uncommon plants; though there is great danger of travelling on account of wild beasts, as well as of the Boshmens*, who often come down, waiting an opportu-

* The Boshiesmen, says Mr. Sparrman, "particularly such as live round about Camdebo and Sneeuwberg, are sworn enemies to the pastoral life. Some of their maxims are, to live on hunting and plunder, and never to keep any animal alive for the space of one night. By this means they render themselves odious to the rest of mankind, and are pursued and exterminated like the wild beasts, whose manners they have assumed. Others of them again are kept alive, and

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nity of plundering the inhabitants of their cattle. In one of my excursions I fell in with a party of these savages; but they

and made slaves of. Their weapons are poisoned arrows, which, shot out of a small bow, will fly to the distance of two hundred paces; and will hit a mark with a tolerable degree of certainty, at the distance of fifty, or even a hundred paces. From this distance they can by stealth, as it were, convey death to the game they hunt for food, as well as to their foes, and even to so large and tremendous a beast as the lion: this noble animal thus falling by a weapon which, perhaps, it despised, or even did not take notice of. The Hottentot, in the mean time, concealed and safe in his ambush, is absolutely certain of the operation of his poison, which he always selects of the most virulent kind; and it is said, he has only to wait a few minutes, in order to see the wild beast languish and die.

I mentioned that their bows were small; they are, in fact, hardly a yard long, being at the same time scarcely of the thickness of an inch in the middle, and very much pointed at both ends. What kind of wood they are made of I cannot say, but it does not seem to be of a remarkably elastic nature. The strings of the bows that I saw were made some of them of sinews, others of a kind of hemp, or the inner bark of some vegetable, and most of them are made in a very slovenly manner; which shows, that these archers depend more on the poison of the weapons, than on any exactness in the formation of them, or any other perfection in them.

Their arrows are a foot and a half long. They are made of a reed one foot in length, which, at the base, or the end that receives the bow-string, has a notch of a proper size to fit it. Just above this notch there is a joint in the reed, about which strings made of sinews are wound, in order to strengthen it. The other end of the reed armed with a highly polished bone, five or six inches long. At the distance of an inch or two from the tip of this bone, a piece of a quill is bound on very fast with sinews. This is done, in order that the arrow shall not be easily drawn out of the flesh; and thus there may be so much the longer time for the poison, which is spread on of a thick consistence like that of an extract, to be dissolved, and infect the wound.

It is not common, however, for an arrow to be headed in the manner above-mentioned, with a pointed bone only; this latter being usually cut off square at the top, and a thin triangular piece of iron fixed into it. As the bone has no cavity whatever, I do not profess to know what animal it is taken from. In the state in which it is seen, as it makes part of the arrow, it is of a dark brown colour, full of small grooves and ribs, and does not appear ever to have been as white as ivory; though, for one of the arrows which I brought with me, it would seem as if ivory had been really made use of. Hence we may conclude, that on such arrows as are headed with iron, the bone is employed chiefly for giving this weapon a kind of weight and poise; and likewise, that these arrows cost the Hottentots a great deal of labour.

Their quivers are two feet long and four inches in diameter. If one may form any conclusion from those I have seen, and from two that I have brought home with me, they are made of a branch of a tree hollowed out; or, still more probable, of the bark of one of these branches taken off whole and entire, the bottom and cover to which are composed of leather. On the
outside

behaved very well, only making signs for tobacco, which I gave them; and they in return offered me some honey which

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outside it is bedaubed with an unctuous matter, that grows hard when dry. Both the quivers I brought with me, are lined about the aperture with a serpent's skin; and, as I was told, with the skin of the yellow serpent, which is considered as the most venomous of any in that country. Besides a dozen of arrows, every quiver contains a slender hone of sand-stone for whetting the iron head upon, and a brush for laying on the poison, together with a few wooden sticks, differing in thickness, but all of the same length with the arrows. For what use they are designed, I am entirely ignorant. The poison is taken from several different kinds of serpents, the more venomous the better; whether their arrows are to be employed against their foes, or are only designed for shooting game; for, as I have observed before, the Hottentots know very well, that taken internally it is quite harmless.

The dwellings of these foes to a pastoral life are generally not more agreeable, than their maxims and manners. Like the wild beasts, bushes and cliffs in rocks by turns serve them instead of houses; and some of them are said to be so far worse than beasts, that their soil has been found close to their habitations. A great many of them are entirely naked; but such as have been able to procure the skin of any sort of animal, great or small, cover their bodies with it from the shoulders downwards as far as it will reach, wearing it till it falls off their backs in rags. As ignorant of agriculture as apes and monkies, like them they are obliged to wander about over hills and dales after certain wild roots, berries and plants, (which they eat raw) in order to sustain a life that this miserable food would soon extinguish and destroy, were they used to better fare.

Their table, however, is sometimes composed of several other dishes, among which may be reckoned the larvæ of insects, or those kind of caterpillars from which butterflies are generated; and in like manner a sort of white ants, (the termes) grasshoppers, snakes, and some sort of spiders. With all these changes of diet, the Boshiefman is nevertheless frequently in want, and to such a degree, as to waste almost to a shadow. It was with no small astonishment, that I for the first time saw in Lange Kloof a lad belonging to this race of men, with his face, arms, legs and body so monstrously small and withered, that I could not have been induced to suppose but that he had been brought to that state by the fever that was epidemic in those parts, had I not seen him at the same time run like a lapwing. It required but a few weeks to bring one of these starvelings to a thriving state, and even to make him fat; their stomachs being strong enough to digest the great quantity of food with which they are crammed, as they may rather be said to bolt than eat; it sometimes happens, indeed, that they cannot long retain what they have taken in; but this circumstance, it is said, does not hinder them from beginning again upon a fresh score.

The capture of slaves from among this race of men is by no means a difficult matter, and is effected in the following manner. Several farmers, that are in want of servants, join together, and take a journey to that part of the country where the Boshiefmen live. They themselves, as well as their Lego-Hottentots, or else such Boshiefmen as have been caught some time before, and have been trained up to fidelity in their service, endeavour to spy out where the wild Boshief-

men

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they had collected in the mountains; they were armed with bows and arrows, and the captain who was with them had a Hassagai or spear in his hand, and heavy ivory rings on his right arm. On my return to the farmer's house, I found them to be of the tribe of Chonacquas.

On the evening of the twenty-third, one of the servants informed us, that he had seen a lion before sun-set, about a thousand yards from the house. Expecting a visit from him

men have their haunts. This is best discovered by the smoke of their fires. They are found in societies from ten to fifty and a hundred, reckoning great and small together. Notwithstanding this, the farmers will venture on a dark night to set upon them with six or eight people, which they contrive to do, by previously stationing themselves at some distance round about the Craal. They then give the alarm by firing a gun or two. By this means there is such a consternation spread over the whole body of these savages, that it is only the most bold and intelligent among them, who have the courage to break through the circle and steal off. These the captors are glad enough to get rid of at so easy a rate, those that are stupid, timorous, and struck with amazement, and who, in consequence of this stupor, allow themselves to be taken and carried into bondage, answering their purpose much better. They are, however, at first, treated by gentle methods; that is, the victors intermix the fairest promises with their threats, and endeavour, if possible, to shoot some of the larger kinds of game for their prisoners, such as buffaloes, sea-cows, and the like. Such agreeable baits, together with a little tobacco, soon induce them, continually cockered and feasted as they are, to go with a tolerable degree of cheerfulness to the colonist's place of abode. There these luxurious feasts of meat and fat are exchanged for more moderate portions, consisting for the most part of butter-milk, frumenty, and hasty-pudding. This diet, nevertheless, makes the Boshiefman fat, as I said before, in a few weeks. However, he soon finds his good living embittered by the maundering and grumbling of his master and mistress. The words T'guzeri and T'gaunati, which, perhaps, are best translated by those of Young Sorcerer and Imp, are expressions which he must frequently put up with, and sometimes a few curses and blows into the bargain; and this for neglect, remissness or idleness: which last failure, if it cannot be said to be born with him, is however in a manner naturalised in him. So that, both by nature and custom, detesting all manner of labour, and now, from his greater corpulency, becoming still more slothful, and having besides been used to a wandering life, subject to no control, he most sensibly feels the want of his liberty. No wonder then, that he generally endeavours to regain it by making his escape: but what is really a subject for wonder is, that, when one of these poor devils runs away from his service, or more properly bondage, he never takes with him any thing that does not belong to him."

in the night, every preparation was made for defence; but next morning we were informed of its having been at a house ^{1777.} November. belonging to an old woman, about four miles distant, and that it had destroyed some of her cattle. I went to the place, and we set a spring gun in the path where we observed it had passed: on the night of the twenty-fifth we heard the report of the gun, and next morning found the animal dead. It proved to be a lioness, and not very large; the dimensions were,

	Feet.	Inches.
The length, from the nose to the point of the tail,	8	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Ditto, of the head, - - - -	1	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
Ditto, of the tail, - - - -	3	
Ditto, from the neck to the tail, - -	4	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
Height before, - - - -	3	8
Length of the foot from the claw to the heel,		8
Ditto, of the claw stretched out, - - -	3	$\frac{1}{2}$
Length of the ears, - - - -	7	$\frac{1}{2}$
Of the tusks, - - - -	2	
Distance between the eyes, - - -	6	
Circumference of the head between the eyes and ears,	2	4 $\frac{1}{2}$

On the third of December, I made an excursion to one of the most agreeable places, in point of situation and fertility, that I had yet seen in Africa. It is situate at the source of the Elephants River; it produces plenty of corn with the least cultivation imaginable. After the river has overflowed the banks, the natives sow the grain; and the climate is so favourable, that it is always ripe here a month sooner than at

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the Cape. It also produces good fruit, such as Oranges, Figs, Mulberries, Peaches, Apricots, Almonds, &c. This place is called the Good Hope.

From the Good Hope, I directed my course south-west, and passed the hot baths. On the tenth I saw a number of Ostriches, with which animal this country abounds. After a very fatiguing march, I arrived at the house of one Folkenhager, where I rested till the thirteenth, when two peasants came up who were on their way to the Cape; they offered me a place in their waggon, which I thankfully accepted, my horse being quite tired with the heavy roads I had already passed. We continued our journey along the banks of the Elephants River; and on the seventeenth arrived at the Atquas Kloaf, where we rested the eighteenth; and here I collected many different sorts of plants, particularly Aloes and Mezembryanthimums.

The Atquas Kloaf, which we passed on the nineteenth, is a very rugged path; but afforded me great variety of plants. On the twentieth, we reached a place called the Sure Flacta, when I parted with my fellow travellers, and proceeded towards the Hottiqua Land, in order to examine the extensive woods upon the range of mountains which we had just passed. At night I came to the house of Mr. Bota, a very obliging man, who furnished me with a guide the next morning; and, at the close of that day's journey, I found myself by the White Elfe River; which takes its name from a tree called, by the Dutch, White Elfe.

On the twenty-second, I adventured into the woods with a young man of the house where I lodged: we took with us some dogs, expecting to meet Tigers. The woods are very thick, and produce some of the tallest trees I ever beheld; at the very tops of which were a variety of party-coloured birds, particularly the Tarakoo, and many other small ones of equal beauty. The mountains are extremely steep, and many of the most stately trees grow out of the naked strata of the rocks. I found in this wood, as in all others of that country, great abundance of the *Piper Cordifolia*, and the trees most of them new. These woods have their beginning to the north of Mossel Bay, and extend about one hundred and twenty miles to the east, ending at a place called the Sitfiamma. Between the woods and the Indian ocean, lies an extensive plain well inhabited by Europeans, who traffic mostly in wood which they bring in planks to the Cape. Though this plain is covered with grass, yet it is so unwholesome for cattle that very few can be kept. It produces corn and wine, though of a very inferior sort.

As the country from this to the Cape is well known and described in both Mr. Maſon's and Dr. Sparrman's narratives, any farther account of it would be only repeating what has already been published by these two gentlemen. I returned to the Cape the same road that I travelled with Captain Gordon, and arrived on the thirteenth of January, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight, at the Cape Town.

SECOND JOURNEY.

Tyger Berg—Stillen Bosch—The Erst Rivier—Pass Hottentot Holland's Kloaf—Come to the river Zondereynd: the impracticability of crossing it—Remain here for several days—Visit Catharina Bay—Proceed towards the Groena Kloaf—The mountains covered with snow—In consequence of the weather we return to the eastward, and cross the Plata Kloaf into the Channa Land—Arrive at a hot bath—Country abounding with beasts of prey—Mr. Van Renan and the author lose the waggon—Travel through the Karo; advancing towards the Coud Bokke Veld—Whitson Berg—Unlucky River—Arrive at a brackish fountain—Visit two of the boors that live in the Karo during the season in which the mountains are covered with snow—Observations on a disease among the sheep in this country—Account of a woman who had been bitten by a snake—Arrive at Rhinoceros Bosch with difficulty—Get up the Rogge Veld Berg: soil and climate—Some observations respecting the highlands in this country—Herds of Quachas—Borders of the country inhabited by the Bosmen—Visit the Hentum—Disorder among the horses peculiar to this country—The Amyrilas Disticha, poisonous and fatal to horned cattle—Observations on the sudden change of the climate at the Hentum Berg—Proceed towards the Bokke Land Bergen: the soil and productions—Proceed towards the Great River—Arrive at the Great Thorn River: much frequented by Lions—Pass a place called the Lion's Den—The water very bad in this country—Come to Black Thorn River—The Small Nimiqua Land—Arrive at the Green River, where we meet with some Nimiqua Hottentots: some account of their manners and customs—Ascend a steep mountain: observe the Atlantic ocean to the westward about thirty miles—Arrive at the Cousie, or Sand River—An account of the Aloe Dichotoma—Pass the Copper Berg—Meet some of the Bosmen: their way of living—Enter a sandy desert plain; where we have great difficulty in crossing—Much distressed for want of provisions—Some account of the Great River—The mountains and productions of that country—The poisons used by the Hottentots—Disagreeable situation of Mr. Van Renan

in crossing the river—Hottentots eat locusts—Account of the quadrupeds that chiefly inhabit this part of the country—Mr. Van Renan kills a Camelopardalis; the greatest part of which is carried off by the Lions—Some account of the sudden overflowing of the river, and the great heat of the climate—Shoot an Hippopotamus: some account of the manner in which the natives catch these animals—Zebras Fountain—Difficulties in crossing a sandy plain—Send for assistance—Arrival at the Brack Fountain—Small Copper Berg Fountain—Visit the copper mines—Camis Berg, the summer residence of most of the boors in the Nimiqua Land—Proceed to Caspers Kloaf, and thence towards the Bokke Veld—Intention of crossing the country from the Bokke Veld to Caffraria—Reasons for not being able to perform that journey—Visit part of the Boshmens Land—Arrive at the Elephants River—Continue our journey to the Heer Lodseiment—Picquet Berg—Arrive at the Berg River; thence proceed to the Cape Town—Arrive 20th November 1778.

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AFTER remaining four months at the Cape, I set out, in May, upon a second journey into the country. In this excursion I was accompanied by a young gentleman, who, though an inhabitant of the Cape Town, was possessed of several farms in the interior parts of the country.

In the morning of the twenty-second of May, we left Ronda Boschie, a house belonging to my companion's father, from whom I had always experienced the utmost friendship during my residence in this country. We proceeded through a large sandy plain to the Tyger Berg, where we dined. The country had at this time a very busy appearance, as the farmers were all engaged in plowing, and sowing their grain. In the afternoon we continued our journey to the south-east; and that night rested at the house of a Mr. Cluta, near Stillen Bosch. On the twenty-third, we proceeded to the Erft Rivier, and

made a short excursion to the Stillen Bosch Mountains, where I collected many beautiful plants, particularly *Ericas* and *Oxalias*, with which the whole face of the country was beautifully decorated. The land is, in this part, uncommonly fertile, producing plenty of corn and wine, and all the fruits which are found at the Cape.

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The next day we directed our course east south-east, to the Hottentot Holland's Kloaf, where there is a steep path across the large chain of mountains (mentioned in my first journey) which begin at Cape False, and continue in a north-west direction, sending out several branches into the interior parts of the country. These mountains are often covered with snow during the winter months: this being the beginning of that season, I was in hopes of discovering many plants which might endure our climate, and be rendered useful: this desire was a principal motive for my setting out at this time, when travelling is attended with peculiar danger, from the sudden swelling of the rivers. In the afternoon we reached Knoflick Kraals Rivier, which was impassable till the twenty-sixth, when we left this place, and proceeded to the warm bath, which is about sixty miles from the Cape.

We continued our journey to the Tyger Hock, and hunted a species of antelope called Bonta Bock, which we killed. On our route we met with two peasants, who had travelled from a great distance, and were on their way to the Cape. They informed us that, the country they had passed was parched up for want of rain; and that it was with great difficulty they

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could procure water for their cattle, though in this part the rivers were so swollen as to be impassable.

On the twenty-eighth, we directed our course eastward; but the inclemency of the weather obliged us to stop at the first house we could find; which was about eight miles from the Tyger Hock, where we stayed all night, and the next day advanced towards the Breed Rivier, where it is joined by the river Zondereynd; but were compelled to stop, from the impracticability of crossing the river. We were not the only travellers who were detained from the same cause; many waggoners were stationed on the opposite side, which had been there for some days, waiting till the water should subside. There is a ferry at this place, but it is of no use when the river is rapid. The man, who had the charge of the ferry, was an old German, and had lived between the two rivers for many years. He very kindly proposed to get us across the river Zondereynd; and offered us the use of his house till the river became passable for the waggon. We left the Hottentots to take care of the baggage, and thankfully accepted of his offer. During our stay here, the thermometer was often at forty degrees, with much rain and fleet; and the mountains were covered with snow. By the eighth of June, we crossed with great difficulty, and proceeded to Zwollendam, where we stayed all night.

We proceeded from Zwollendam to Buffalye Agte Rivier, where I remained some days at the house of Mr. Van Renan, and added greatly to my botanical collection.

Mr. Van Renan furnished us with a team of fresh oxen, and accompanied us himself, on the sixteenth, to the mouth of the Gouds Rivier. I visited Catharina Bay, which is about two hundred and eighty miles from the Cape. The bay is wide, and opens from the sea, west by north; which exposes ships very much to the south-east winds. About twelve years before, a French ship was lost in this bay. The adjacent country is rather barren, and unfavourable to ships which put in for refreshment, being very thinly inhabited. Finding but few plants in flower, we returned to the house of Mr. Van Renan, to consider of the best route to be taken; at length we agreed to pass the large chain of mountains to the westward, by a pass called Groena Kloaf, which we were informed was the safest and most agreeable road at that season.

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In consequence of this resolution, we directed our course to the westward, and on the twenty-seventh reached the house of one Jacobus Botta, a man of ninety years of age, a period seldom attained in this country; where, though the people are in general very healthy while young, and the climate very favourable, they do not usually enjoy a protracted existence.

On the twenty-eighth, we continued our route to the west, along the chain of mountains, which I mentioned as covered with snow. We found the day exceedingly cold, with heavy rains, and a strong north-west wind. The thermometer, at eight in the morning, was at forty-three degrees; at noon, forty-seven; at four in the afternoon, forty-four; and

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at eight in the evening, forty-two. At night we came to a farm on the Breed Rivier.

The weather was so bad on the twenty-ninth, that we could not proceed ; but during the day I was able to make an excursion towards the hills, where I found some very curious plants.

A gentleman, who came from the westward, advised us not to proceed any farther in that direction, as it would not be possible to cross the rivers for many days, the mountains being covered very deep with snow ; the melting of which would keep them very high. The accounts he gave us were so unfavourable, that I agreed to return and to cross the mountains at another place to the eastward, called Plata Kloaf, where we arrived on the eighth of July.

We crossed the mountains with some difficulty, on the tenth, and entered a country, (which I had occasion to notice in my first journey) called Channa Land. From this place we proceeded to the westward, and in the course of our day's journey I added greatly to my collection of the Mezembryanthimum tribe. In the evening we came to a hot bath, which appeared to be much the same in its qualities with those already mentioned ; only more temperate. The heat of the bath, by the thermometer, is one hundred and seven ; and where it springs out of the rock, one hundred and ten. We stayed here a few days, and dispatched our waggon early in the morning of the thirteenth, having a very long day's jour-

ney before us. About ten in the morning, we overtook our baggage, and were informed by the driver, that two Lions had passed about an hour before. This part of the country abounds with beasts of prey, which renders travelling extremely dangerous. The ground is covered with shrubs about four feet high, called by the natives *Guerrie*, a species of *Royena*, which affords a covert sufficiently shady to conceal Lions, Tigers, and the variety of animals which sport, during the day, in the more uninhabited parts, and at night commit depredations on the adjacent farms. The soil of this country is a loose mouldy clay, so little favourable to fertility, that though this was the best season, there was scarcely a blade of grass to be seen. I found many succulent plants in flower; and also a species of the *Geranium Spinosum*, which I had never seen before.

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After a very hard day's journey, we arrived on the thirteenth at a stream of water, where we rested the remaining part of the night. We had much rain, with loud claps of thunder. The thermometer, at eight in the evening, was at forty-seven degrees.

The next morning, finding a Hottentot Kraal about two miles off, I hired one of the inhabitants as a guide; for the whole of our party were entirely unacquainted with this part of the country. My companion, Mr. Van Renan, and myself, left the waggon, and pursued a different direction, in order to see as much of the country as possible, and to collect plants. About four in the afternoon, we thought it was time to look

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after the waggon. We travelled till nine, through a very wild country, inhabited only by beasts, without discovering the object of our search. I then ascended the hills, in hopes of discerning a fire on some of the adjacent heights ; which is the usual signal made by travellers in Africa when they are lost, or separated from their companions. Our labours were, however, still unsuccessful, so that we agreed to remain, till day-light, at the side of a small fountain ; though we were far from being in either an agreeable or safe situation, having no fire-arms, and no possibility of lighting a fire. Numbers of Hyenas howled about us the whole night ; and in the morning, we found that a large Tiger had been within ten yards of us. The thermometer was down at thirty-nine, and the mountains were covered with snow.

The following day we proceeded in search of our people, whom we discovered about noon. We rested a few hours, and in the afternoon continued our journey, about six miles to the westward, where we stayed all night. Our oxen and horses were fastened to the waggon, and fires were, as usual, made around us.

We next directed our course through a dry barren country, and, in the morning, came to a miserable hovel belonging to an European, where we stayed all night. Next day we proceeded through what the Dutch call Karo, which is a very extensive plain, interspersed with small succulent and frutescent plants. This description may be applicable to many parts of Africa ; particularly those which are situated to the

north of the Cape. We travelled all this day without finding a drop of water; and in the evening arrived at a house called the Staart, which is pleasantly situated on the banks of a small river. Here we amused ourselves with shooting wild ducks, and a species of Reed-hens, which we found in great plenty; and so little accustomed to pursuit, that they were not in any degree shy.

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On the nineteenth, we proceeded along the Verkered Valley; which is thus denominated, from the river which courses through it taking a direction different from that of any other in this country. At the time we were there it was quite full. We were now advancing towards the Coud Bokke Veld, or the Cold Country of Antelopes; the mountains of which were covered with snow; which frequently remains upon their summits till the month of November.

On the twentieth, we arrived at a house situated on the north-east side of the Whitson Berg, or White Hill, where we remained all night. The people informed us of the danger of crossing the Great Karo, not only from its being a desert country, but also from parties of the Boshmen Hottentots, who were at war with the Dutch; and were often lurking about to fall in with Europeans. They gave us instances of persons having been wounded by their poisoned arrows; and that they were very seldom cured. Notwithstanding their good advice, we determined to cross the country, keeping as much on our guard as possible. On the twenty-first, we directed our course north; and in the evening took up our lodgings on the side

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its name from a species of Mimosa that grows on its banks.

I made an excursion, in the morning, through the country, in search of plants ; and in the afternoon joined the waggon. In the evening we found water at a place, called Porde Berg, or Horse Mountain, where we rested all night. The next morning we observed a fire about half a mile from us, which we imagined had been lighted by a party of wild Hottentots. My companion and I agreed, however, to see who they were ; and found them to be the servants of a Dutchman, who lived near the Cape. They had a large flock of sheep under their charge. We found them so well acquainted with the country, that I hired one of them as a guide. We then continued our journey about twenty miles, and at night arrived at Unlucky River ; so called, from a man's having been devoured, some years ago, on its banks, by a Lion.

On the twenty-fourth, our road lay through a dry sandy country, with a very naked appearance. The hills were composed of horizontal stratas of a soft mouldering kind of stone. At noon we were informed by a peasant, who was on his way to the Cape, that if we did not proceed on our journey with all possible expedition, we should not be able to come to any place where there was water. And that travelling at night was dangerous, from the number of Lions which inhabited that part of the country. After a very fatiguing march we arrived at a brackish fountain, where we rested all night.

The following day we continued our route to the northward, through much the same kind of barren soil we had passed on the day preceding. Wherever we passed, we observed the fresh print of Lions and Tigers; and early next morning Mr. Van Renan saw a Lion within fifty yards of him; which we afterwards went in pursuit of; but the track brought us to a clump of thick thorny shrubs, which prevented us from proceeding farther.

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On the twenty-seventh, we visited two of the boors who reside in the Karo during the time when the snow lies upon the Rogge Veld Mountains. This practice is not, however, general, several of them remain in their habitations, exposed to all the inclemencies of the weather. The principal cause of the migrations from the mountains to the Karo, is a want of firewood, which is very scarce on these heights. Those of them that remain, in general, employ their servants, before the winter begins, in carrying wood from the bottom of the mountain, which is certainly a very laborious task. There are some to whom these temporary removals are far from appearing a great evil. Indeed, several of the inhabitants of this district are so much in the habit of changing their abode, that rather than undergo the trouble of making a proper provision for this dreary season, they would travel for many miles. As this desert part of the country is inhabited only during a short part of the year, very few houses are to be found in it. Most of the inhabitants live in huts similar to those of the Hottentots; some dwell in the tent that covers their waggon; and, even in this situation, the boors have the appearance of being the

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happiest of all human beings. When a stranger visits them, he is treated with the greatest hospitality; and every thing they have is at his command. This, in general, is the case throughout the whole country. We proceeded on our journey this day only about ten miles; and in the evening came to a very mean cottage under the mountain. The inhabitants were possessed of a very large herd of cattle, particularly sheep; but at this season many die of a disease, which they term, the Burning Sicknefs, in which they lose most of their hair. At this place is a passage over the mountain; but there was now no possibility of crossing it; we, therefore, proceeded to the westward, by the direction of the boors, where they assured us we should find a much better pass. At night we came to a small stream of water, where we rested. Here I collected many curious plants of *Geraniums*, *Ixias*, *Moræas*, *Gladioluses*, &c. and also a most beautiful species of *Euphorbia*.

After leaving this place, we directed our course north by west, through a hilly country. On our way we saw several huts, which we supposed to belong to Hottentots; but they proved such as I before described, the winter residence of the Dutch boors. At one of these huts was an European woman who had been wounded in the arm with a poisoned arrow. Great pains had been taken to cure her, but to no purpose; for at different periods of the year, an inflammation came on which was succeeded by a partial mortification. She informed me, that the wound was not long in healing up; but that in two months afterwards there was a certainty of its breaking out again; and this had been the case for many years.

At night we arrived at a place called Olive Bush, where we rested. The man, to whom this place belonged, was the only one, of a whole family, who escaped from a party of the Boshmen Hottentots. Those savages had attacked them a few years before, and put to death the mother, brother, and sister of this person. 1778.
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On the thirtieth, we proceeded to the northward; and, in the evening, came to a farm called Rhinoceros Bosch, from its having been much frequented by these animals some years ago; though very few are now found in this part of the country. During the night we had much wind and rain; and in the morning the thermometer had fallen to forty degrees.

Pursuing our journey, north by west, we had the Rogge Veld Berg on our right hand. On our way we met one of the inhabitants of the mountain, who promised to assist us with a team of fresh oxen to carry us to the summit, which was very difficult of ascent. In the evening, we rested by the side of the Rhinoceros River; but as we had no shelter from the incessant hail and rain, and were unable to keep our fire lighted, our situation was extremely uncomfortable. In this condition we remained during the whole of the following day.

On the second of August, the promised assistance arrived in order to conduct us up the mountain; but it was with the utmost difficulty we could reach the summit, the path was so very steep and rugged. At eight, in the morning, I found the thermometer at thirty degrees; and the top of the mountain

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so wet, that our oxen and horses went often up to their bellies in the low ground. In the afternoon we came to the house of our friend, who had afforded us so much assistance, where we stayed all night, and were hospitably entertained. Though the soil appears to be very good here, yet it seldom produces any considerable crop of grain. This proceeds not only from blights, which are very frequent here; but sometimes from heavy showers of hail, which break down the corn about the time that it is ready to be cut. The locusts also are fatal enemies to all vegetation, and destroy every thing in their course, not sparing even the fruit trees. The soil of this mountain is of a reddish clay; in many places containing a quantity of saline matter, so as to be quite perceptible to the taste. It is necessary to observe, that towards the interior parts of this country, or rather the centre of the peninsula, the country does not decline in a north-west direction, at least not in proportion to the immense mountains which progressively present themselves to view: for instance, though the ascent of the mountain called, the Rogge Veld, is not less than two thousand feet from the Karo, the descent is not more than one thousand, before we come to a second, which appears of equal height with the former. In the detail of my journey through this country, it is my intention to pay a particular regard to this circumstance.

From this place we proceeded nearly north by west, through a very hilly country. In the evening, of the third, we arrived at a miserable hut, which we found belonged to an European who lived with the Hottentots; his name was Swertz. He



AMARYLLIS DISTICHA,
The Bull is used for poisoning Arrows.

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was not at home ; but as we could not advance any farther, for want of water, we remained there during the night. The only thing we could procure at this place was milk, for which we gave the Hottentots some tobacco. Early next morning, we travelled through a dry barren country which lies between the Rogge Veld and Hentum. At noon we crossed the Rhinoceros River, where we saw several large herds of Quachas ; and, in the evening, came to a very decent house, where we were well received. This house is situated on the very borders of the Boshmen's Land ; and is frequently attacked by that tribe of Hottentots. As we had undergone many inconveniences for some time before, from the severity of the weather, and the want of shelter in many places through which we had passed, I determined to rest here a few days, and to visit the Hentum and other countries adjoining. There is a very good house under, or rather near the foot of Hentum Berg, belonging to the father of my companion. The next morning I therefore proceeded thither, and left my oxen to rest, while I made some short excursions. In this part of the country there are many things worthy of observation. The horses in this district are yearly attacked by a disorder, for which it is very difficult, if not impossible, to account. Certain it is, that the utmost care, the feeding of them with corn, and keeping of them in stables, as much from the air as possible, does not operate as a preservative from this disease ; so that those who have other farms near, remove their cattle till this season is passed. Horned cattle are exposed to equal danger from the *Amaryllis Disticha*, or Poison Bulb, with which the country is covered ; they are extremely fond of its leaves,

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which generally prove fatal. At this place I added much to my collection, particularly some plants of the shrub kind, now in flower on the top of the Hentum Mountain. This eminence is very lofty ; and, at the season when I visited it, was covered with snow, frozen into a solid body of ice. I found a difference of thirty degrees between the thermometer here and in the vale below. In the shade it was down to twenty-six.

We proceeded, on the ninth, towards the Bokke Land, which is nearly west by south, from the Hentum ; and, in two days, arrived at a place called the Tom, or Tower, which is a hill of a pyramidal figure, where we stayed all night.

On the eleventh, we passed the Baboons Hill ; the road was so very bad, that it was with great difficulty we could keep the waggon upon its wheels. Here I collected many beautiful plants, which were quite new to me. This night we stayed at a brackish river ; and the following day were detained till noon, having missed our oxen. Here I visited a Hottentot Kraal, which was about a mile distant ; and, as I proposed travelling over the Small Nimiqua Land, I hired one of the Hottentots, who spoke Dutch, as an interpreter. In the afternoon we continued our journey as far as Thorn River, where are many Lions, so that we were obliged to observe the precautions of tying our oxen, and making fires.

On the twelfth, we descended the Bokke Veld Berg, which was steep, but not very high, and came to a farm be-

longing to Mr. Van Renan. In this journey from the Hantum, we shortened our distance from the Cape about fifty miles.

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The following day we proceeded to the northern extremity of the mountain, which is quite level on this side, and almost perpendicular for more than two thousand feet. The soil is of a white sandy mold, intermixed with large fragments of a sort of free-stone. This part of the country produces very little corn: the pasture is esteemed good for cattle; but, in the dry season, they are much distressed for want of water. The people here behaved with the utmost hospitality; and one of them, Jacobus Ryke, accompanied me to the Great River.

On the eighteenth, we accompanied our waggon in its descent down the mountain, which was really steep and dreadful. About ten in the morning we got into a low level country, covered with succulent plants; and the *Geranium Spinosum* in great abundance. This day we shot at several of a species of Antelope, with long sharp straight horns, called Gems Bock,* and killed two. These animals are among the largest of the

* "It is described with straight slender horns, near three feet long, annulated above half of their length: the rest smooth. Space between horn and horn at the points fourteen inches. At their base is a black spot; in the middle of the face another; a third falls from each eye to the throat, united to that in the face by a lateral band of the same colour: the nose and rest of the face white. From the hind-part of the head, along the neck and top of the back, runs a narrow dusky line of hairs, longer than the rest, and standing above them, dilating towards the rump. Sides of a light reddish ash-colour; the lower part bounded by a broad longitudinal dusky band, reaching to the breast.

Belly, rump, and legs white; each leg marked below the knees with a dusky mark. Tail covered with long black hairs; from the rump to the end of the hairs, two feet six inches long.

The

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Antelope kind at the Cape; and in general their flesh is excellent food. This night we slept under a large *Mimosa* tree, and the next morning went forward to the northward. About nine we arrived at the Great Thorn River, where we rested a few hours during the heat of the sun. This river, as I before observed, is much frequented by Lions and other ferocious animals; yet, notwithstanding the number and the fierceness of these formidable creatures, there are very few instances of people being devoured by them. In the afternoon we continued our journey through a level country, having the Boshmens' Land, or Long Hill, on our right hand, and the Karo Berg on the left. On our way we saw several Elks, Eyelands, &c. The country is in most parts covered with a very curious sort of cubic iron ore. On digging down, I found the cubic ore formed in a sort of free-stone. In the evening we came to a place, called the Lion's Den, or Lieur Coile; this is a large hollow rock, where we found water just sufficient to supply ourselves and our cattle:

Early in the morning I made an excursion to the westward in search of plants, while my two companions, Mr. Van Renan and Jacobus Ryke, directed their course to the northward in pursuit of game. At noon I returned to the Lion's Den, and thence proceeded to the northward, directing my servants to follow me with the waggon. After travelling about eight miles,

The length of the skin, which I examined, was above six feet six inches.

Inhabits Syria, Arabia, Persia, and India; Ægypt, Æthiopia, and the Cape of Good Hope, where it is called Gems-bock, or Chamois." Pennant, vol. 1. p. 67.

I may add, that it has remarkable long sharp horns, and when attacked by dogs, will sit on its hind quarters and defend itself. Paterfon.

I found my companions at a small fountain, broiling some white ants, which we eat; and indeed they are by no means disagreeable. Here I found a new *Ixia*, with a long spike of crimson flowers, I think it was one of the most beautiful I had ever found: being rather apprehensive of the Boshmen, we lighted no fires; but in the night we saw several to the east and north-east, which we supposed were made by the natives.

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Next day we proceeded on our journey to the north-west, through a deep sandy country. About noon we observed a habitation a little to the eastward, and found that it belonged to an European, who lived here during the winter season: this place we called the Pickled Fountain, from the water being so brackish that we could not drink it. In the afternoon we continued our journey to another fountain, called Brack Fountain. The water here was exceedingly brackish, though much better than the first. During the night we had much rain; and next day found good water in the hollow rocks; but I observed that the water, by standing a few hours in the rocks, became similar in its qualities to that of the fountain.

From this place we continued our journey through a hilly country. Most of the hills form large pyramids of loose, red, sandy stone. Here I found but few plants in flower, except of the succulent kind. At noon, on the twenty-second, we came to the Hartebeest Rivier, which was brackish; here we rested about two hours. In the afternoon we proceeded to the westward, when we came to another house on the same river, where we stayed all night. A little to the westward

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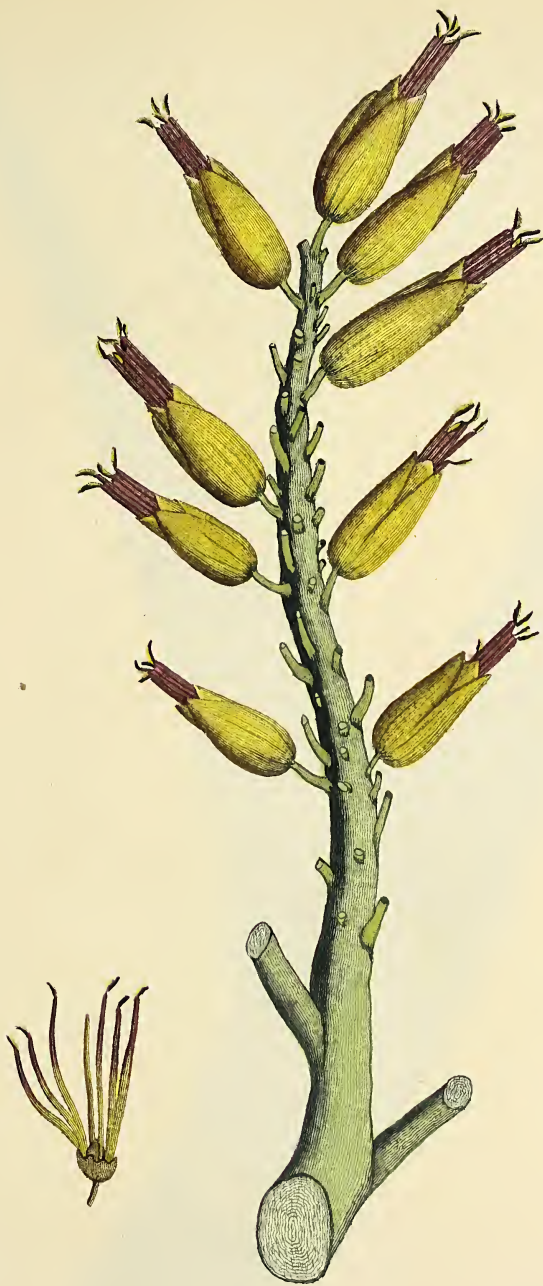
this river joins another, called the Thorn River. The soil in this part of the country is clay.

The next morning we directed our course to the northward, and in the forenoon came to the Black Thorn River; which has its source at the Camis Berg. This is one of the highest mountains in this part of the country, and supplies the greatest part of the Small Nimiqua Land with water in the summer. At this river we stayed all day, having excellent pasture and good water for our cattle.

The following day we continued our journey north-west, and entered the Small Nimiqua Land. The country is very mountainous. Most of the hills are covered with the Aloe Dichotoma. In the afternoon we arrived under the Camis Berg, where we met with a peasant who had been some miles to the northward, inquiring after some of his friends; he was on his way to the Cape. There being a good supply of water at this place, we resolved to continue here all night; and in the morning we directed our course towards the west; and in our road passed several dangerous precipices. At noon we rested, about an hour, by a small stream of water. In the afternoon we proceeded in the same direction; and in the evening came to a house belonging to a Dutchman, situated on the banks of a pleasant river, called the Green River. Here we stayed all night. The Hottentots brought us milk, for which we gave them tobacco and Dacka, or hemp leaves, which they prefer even to tobacco.

ALOE DICHOTOMA,
or Quiver Tree.





The Flowers of the ALOE DICHOTOMA, *or Quiver Tree.*



The Leaves of the ALOE DICHOTOMA, *or Quiver Tree.*



The Trunk of the **ALOE DICHOTOMA**, *or Quiver Tree.*

Early on the morning of the twenty-seventh, we sallied forth towards the north, and ascended a steep hill, where I collected many beautiful plants. At night we came to a Hottentot village, which consisted of nineteen huts, and about one hundred and fifty inhabitants. The ensign of authority, which is worn by their chief or captain, is a cane with a brass top, which is given to him by the Dutch company. The Hottentots amused us, part of the night, with their dancing; while, in return, we treated them with tobacco and Dacka. Their music is produced from flutes made of the bark of trees of different sizes. The men form themselves into a circle, with their flutes, and the women dance round them, making a noise with their hands. In this manner they continue to dance in parties during the whole night, and are relieved about every two hours.

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From this place, on the twenty-eighth, we directed our course westerly, after ascending a steep mountain, where our waggon was much damaged. Here we had a view of the Atlantic ocean, about thirty miles to the westward. At noon we came to a fountain, where were several Hottentot huts: this is called the Eye Fountain, by the natives, from one of them having had his eye struck out here in a quarrel with the others. The soil is clay, intermixed with large round stones. In this part of the country I collected a variety of plants. In the evening we came to a small stream of water, where we slept.

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The following day, we continued our journey north by west, through a mountainous country; and towards the evening came to a small fountain of brackish water, situate under a naked rock of a conical figure, upwards of five hundred feet high. Here we remained till morning, and then proceeded north by east, after crossing a river, called the Coufie, or Sand River, where we found an European with his cattle, who lived here during the winter season. This man possessed neither house nor hut, but lodged under the shelter of a large Aloe Dichotoma, which is a very common plant in these regions. I have measured several which were twelve feet in circumference, and above twenty feet high; and I have seen some above four hundred feet round the extremity of the branches, which extend themselves in the form of a crown. This plant is called the Koker Boem, or Quiver Tree; and has its name from the use to which it is commonly applied by the natives. In the afternoon we continued our journey to the northward; and in the evening came to the house of one Jan Vander Hiver, situate on the Copper Berg Rivier, where we rested a few days, and were hospitably entertained. I made several excursions through the country, where I found a variety of plants; among these was the Geranium Spinosum, with yellow flowers. The soil about this part is a red sand.

At this place I furnished myself with some fresh oxen, part of mine being unserviceable. We next directed our course north, through a rugged country, in which we saw several of the natives at a distance. In our way we passed the Copper Mountain, which was discovered in the year sixteen hundred

and eighty-four, by Governor Vander Stell, but found great scarcity of wood and water. There is, at a little distance, a brackish fountain which is frequently dry in the summer. In the evening we arrived at a small fountain, where we had hardly water enough to suffice us and our cattle. We, however, resolved to remain there all night, being informed that we were thirty miles distant from the next water.

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We thence directed our course north. About ten, in the morning, we saw several natives approaching, armed with bows and arrows, whom we supposed to be bush Hottentots, and therefore thought it prudent to load our guns. They soon overtook us, and asked me for some tobacco, which I willingly gave them. One, who spoke Dutch, told me, that they had no cattle, and that they lived upon roots and gums; and sometimes feasted on an Antelope, which they occasionally shot with their poisoned arrows. Soon after one of the inhabitants of the Nimiqua Land overtook us, and requested I would accept of his company to the Great River. His nation being at war with the bush Hottentots, he was rather afraid, as they frequently rob the Nimiquas of their cattle, and often kill the people. In the evening we came to a small fountain, where we stayed all night, having travelled about thirty miles without meeting with a drop of water.

The following morning we directed our course north by east, through a sandy plain; and about sunset came to a brackish fountain, where we stayed all night. Next morning I made an excursion to a high mountain, to the eastward, where I

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found many plants which were unknown to me, particularly several new species of Euphorbias, Hermannias, and Stapelias. I collected many seeds, and as many specimens as I could preserve. From the summit of this mountain I had an extensive view of the adjacent country to the north and east. At noon I returned to the waggon.

In the afternoon we directed our course northward, through a sandy plain, which we had much difficulty in crossing, the sand being so deep that our cattle sunk in it to their knees. Towards the evening, Mr. Van Renan and myself left the waggon, directing our course northward in search of water; and resolved not to return till we found it. At night we came to the Great River, where we agreed to wait till the waggon arrived, our horses being much fatigued. At this place was a kind of shed, which had been built by an European who had lived some time on the banks; there being excellent pasture for cattle. We had been a whole day without tasting food; so that we were very glad to find a piece of rusty flesh of the Hippopotamus, a species of diet which the Africans are very fond of. My companion eat very heartily of it; as for myself, a very small portion satisfied me. After this regale we endeavoured to sleep; but though we were much fatigued, we could get no rest for the cries of the Hippopotami, which are really frightful. Next morning, our waggon not being arrived, we saddled our horses and returned the same way, supposing some accident had happened to it. On our return we found the drivers had missed the way, and gone more to the eastward. We discovered their track, and followed them



HERMANNIA.



STAPELIA.

to another part of the river. When we arrived, all our Hottentots were hunting the Hippopotamus, having no provision in the waggon. They had hunted the whole day without success; and one of them had been wounded by the animal; but the stream being rapid, had driven him off to the opposite shore. We observed several natives, to whom we made repeated signs; but they did not seem to understand us.

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On the seventh, we agreed to return the way we came, having had nothing to eat for the two preceding days, except some wild prickly cucumbers, which grew here in abundance. Before we took leave of this place, I asked Mr. Van Renan to accompany me to a high hill about a league to the eastward of us, which he readily agreed to. When arrived at the summit, we saw a large herd of cattle about six miles to the eastward; on which we immediately returned to the waggon with the glad tidings, and a Hottentot was dispatched to bring us a sheep or a bullock, whatever it should cost. Our messenger returned in the evening with three sheep, and the Hottentots to whom they belonged, who stayed with us during the night. The river assumes a westerly direction in this part; and I found it to be the same that Captain Gordon had visited the year before, and had named the Orange River, in honour of the Prince of Orange. On both sides of the river are large trees, peculiar to this country, such as Mimosa of different sorts; Salices, and a great variety of shrubby plants. The mountains have, upon the whole, a barren appearance, being in general naked rocks; though they are in some places adorned by a variety of succulent plants; and in particular

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Euphorbia, which grows to the height of fifteen feet, and supplies the Hottentots with an ingredient for poisoning their arrows. Their method of making this pernicious mixture, is by first taking the juice extracted from the Euphorbia, and a kind of caterpillar peculiar to another plant, which has much the appearance of a species of *Rhus*, though I could find none in flower. They mix the animal and vegetable matter, and after drying it, they point their arrows with this composition, which is supposed to be the most effectual poison of the whole country. The Euphorbia itself is also used for this purpose, by throwing the branches into fountains of water frequented by wild beasts, which after drinking the water thus poisoned, seldom get a thousand yards from the brink of the fountain before they fall down and expire. This practice of poisoning the water, proves an additional danger to travellers who are unacquainted with the circumstance; though the natives generally use the precaution of leading off the water which is to be poisoned to a small drain, and covering up the principal fountain.

We next directed our course easterly, along the banks of the river, where I added much to my collection. In our progress we saw a variety of the most beautiful Birds I ever beheld; and numbers of wild Apes and Elephants.

The day following, I proposed crossing the river with several of the Hottentots who were swimmers. We invented a small float, which consisted of three pieces of dry wood, on which we transported our guns and clothes. After swimming about



EUPHORBIA.

Supposed to be the strongest Vegetable Poison in Africa.



EUPHORBIA.

Part of the Stem & Flowers.

half an hour, we gained the opposite shore, where we wounded an Hippopotamus. At noon I made an excursion along the mountains, which were so naked that scarcely a plant was to be seen. Some of these mountains consist of a species of quartz, others of iron, and several strata of copper ore. Along the banks of the river I found many pebbles of hard agate. In the evening we returned to the waggon, much fatigued. The wind being easterly, had driven us above a thousand yards down the river. I stayed here several days, searching the whole country for plants, and shot many beautiful birds, with which I was before unacquainted.

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On the fifteenth, whilst we were in this situation, my companion, Mr. Van Renan, very narrowly escaped with his life. In crossing the river, accompanied by four Hottentots, the whole party was attacked and pursued by two Hippopotami. They had, however, the good fortune to get upon a rock in the middle of the river, and their guns being loaded they killed one of these animals; the other swam to the opposite side. Mr. Van Renan's intention was to go to the northward, being informed that the Camelopardales were in that part of the country, while I made excursions to the eastward through a large plain in search of plants. Here I found many new species of Gramina, particularly that which the Dutch call Boshman's Grass, from the use made of it by that people, who eat the seed of it. At different seasons of the year a species of locusts come down to this plain in such numbers as to destroy most of the plants. The Boshmen esteem these insects excellent food. The locusts are dried and kept for use

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when they have no other provision. This part of the country abounds with poisonous reptiles. The quadrupeds which are found, are Elephants, Rhinoceroses, Camelopardales, Zebras, Elks, Koedoes, Lions, Tigers, Hyenas, and Jackals.

Mr. Van Renan returned the nineteenth. He had shot a *Camelopardalis*, towards the evening, at a great distance from the water, to which they immediately directed their course, intending to send a Hottentot next day to skin the animal. On their return, to their great surprize, a Lion sprung up about fifty yards from the place where the *Camelopardalis* lay; and, on their arrival, they found he had disfigured it so much, that nothing could be preserved except part of the skin of the neck, with the horns, and part of the hind quarters. After seeing this, I resolved to cross the river with some of the Hottentots, and procure the skeleton which they left in the fields. But by this time the river began to swell, and the Hottentots refused to accompany me, as they would be in danger of being detained for several months on the opposite side; this being the rainy season to the eastward of our present situation, in which quarter we discovered many thunder clouds. The climate differs much from that of the Small Nimiqua Land. During our stay here, the thermometer rose from ninety-five to one hundred and ten in the shade.

The twenty-third, we spent the whole day in shooting at the Hippopotami, one of which we killed. We saw also the method made use of by the natives to catch these animals; which is as follows: they dig large holes in the ground, along

the banks of the river, about ten feet diameter, and some of them about ten feet deep. In the bottom of these pits they place pieces of wood sharpened at the points, and then cover the cavity with branches of trees and turf. When the hippopotami come out of the river in the night to graze, they often fall into these snares, and very frequently receive wounds which occasion their immediate death. 1778.
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As the season was too far advanced to admit of our proceeding farther to the north, and as there was no other path than that we had already taken, we returned by the same route. In our way we were visited by two peasants of the Nimiqua Land, who were sent out on a commission to the Boshmen, in search of cattle which they had perloined from the inhabitants of that country.

The twenty-fourth, we directed our course westerly. At night we came to a small fountain, called Zebras Fountain. There was but little water; but we were, nevertheless, under the necessity of staying all night, having an extensive plain to cross, where there was not a drop of water to be seen for about fifty miles.

On the twenty-fifth, at sunset, we left this small fountain, and proceeded southward, intending to travel through the dry desert. After travelling about eight miles, several of our cattle began to drop down under the yoke, which obliged us to stay the remaining part of the night without a drop of water. In the morning we missed our oxen, and sent a Hottentot out

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in search of them, who returned at midnight. This day we passed disagreeably, being exposed to the scorching heat of the sun, and entirely destitute of water.

On the next, we agreed that it would be best to return to the river for water, and leave the waggon in its present situation. Mr. Van Renan being sick, remained to take charge of the baggage, which required some guard from the number of bush Hottentots who infested this part of the country. We then directed our course towards the river, and took with us an empty cask and a cann, which we had by the waggon. We found the river to be distant from us about eight miles in a direct line. We saw, on our arrival, the remainder of two Hippopotami, which we had shot some days before, thrown out of the river. After refreshing ourselves, we filled our cask and cann, which Jacobus Ryke and myself carried, leaving our Hottentots to bring the cattle to the waggon. The heat of the sun, and the fatiguing journey we had over the sand, obliged us to expend great part of the water before we arrived at the waggon, which was at six in the evening. As soon as our oxen arrived, we made another attempt to proceed; but after travelling about ten miles farther, our cattle appeared in the same condition as before. Mr. Van Renan and Jacobus Ryke therefore agreed to go on to the house of one Vander Hever, which was about fifty miles to the southward of this place. They saddled their horses early, the twenty-eighth, and left us in this disagreeable situation, without water or fire. I sent a Hottentot to a rock, about ten miles distance to the south-east, where there was a little water. In the afternoon,



GERANIUM.

Nova Species.

being tired of our situation, we resolved to make a third effort; and, if we should find it impossible to proceed, to leave the waggon and return to the Orange River, being almost exhausted for want of water. Very luckily our cattle did much better than we expected, and brought us out of that sandy desert; in which there was scarcely any thing to be seen except Mice and Snakes, both of which we observed in great numbers. Towards the evening we met the Hottentot whom we had sent to the rock in search of water. He brought with him about forty quarts, which refreshed us greatly; and, I believe, the very smell of it animated our cattle. In the night we arrived at the Brack Fountain, which by this time was almost dried up: being much fatigued, we were very unwilling to leave this place. The next day I employed the Hottentots in digging the fountain a little deeper; and, by their exertions, we procured abundance of water, both for our own use and that of the cattle.

In the afternoon I visited the hills, where I collected several seeds and specimens of plants, which I had not observed in my former visit to this spot.

After leaving this part, we pursued our journey towards the Copper Berg, in the expectation of meeting with a supply of fresh oxen from our friend Vander Hever. About ten, at night, we perceived a fire at a distance, and, on our arrival at the place, had the pleasure of finding a Hottentot with twelve bullocks under his care, which had been dispatched for our assistance. We continued to travel till three o'clock in

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the morning, when we arrived at the Small Copper Berg Fountain, where we stopped.

As soon as it was day, we proceeded on our journey ; and at nine o'clock I left the waggon, and directed my course through the mountainous part of the country in search of plants. I also visited the Copper Mines ; and brought with me several specimens of the ore, which is very rich. In the evening I arrived at the house of Vander Hever ; and about two hours afterwards my waggon arrived. Here we rested several days, and were kindly entertained. During our abode at this place, I made several excursions into the adjacent country, and considerably enriched my collection. As the dry season was now commencing, the greater part of the inhabitants were removed to their summer residence on the Camis Berg. This mountain, as I mentioned before, supplies all this part of the country with water, which intersects the ground in different places. On the north side flows the Coufie, and on the south and south-west, the Green River. Several other rivers, likewise, derive their source from the Camis Berg ; but they are of very little utility to the Nimiqua Land.

Being furnished with a team of fresh oxen, we travelled towards the southward the whole of the fourth of October, and at night arrived at the Sand River, the water of which we found brackish. Here we remained till morning, and then pursued our journey for about fourteen miles, to a place where we found excellent water ; but no great variety of plants, except Geraniums.

We next proceeded to a place, called Caspers Kloaf, where we remained all night. On the seventh, I made an excursion to the Camis Berg, and collected many species of *Moræa* and *Ixias*; and found many plants in flower, such as *Oxalis* and *Crinums*, which were in that state during the month of May at the Cape.

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The following morning, we pursued our journey towards the Bokke Veld, and in our way passed several Hottentot Kraals. Those people are possessed of large herds of cattle; and reside in the summer on the Camis Berg. At the Eye Fountain we met a peasant who had travelled from the Cape, and was going towards the Orange River.

We proceeded, on the tenth, to the Green River, where we rested during the heat of the day; and in the afternoon travelled about four miles farther to the south-east. The next day we were informed of a much better path than that which we had already traversed, and which we resolved to take: we travelled the whole day, and at night arrived at a small stream of water, where we agreed to remain till the morning. This we supposed to be the Thorn River.

The next morning I ascended a high mountain to the southward, which afforded me a very extensive view of the country to the east; and the pleasure of observing we had taken the right path. After travelling about fifteen miles, we came to the house of a Dutchman, where I procured provisions for a week, as we had an extensive country to pass before we could

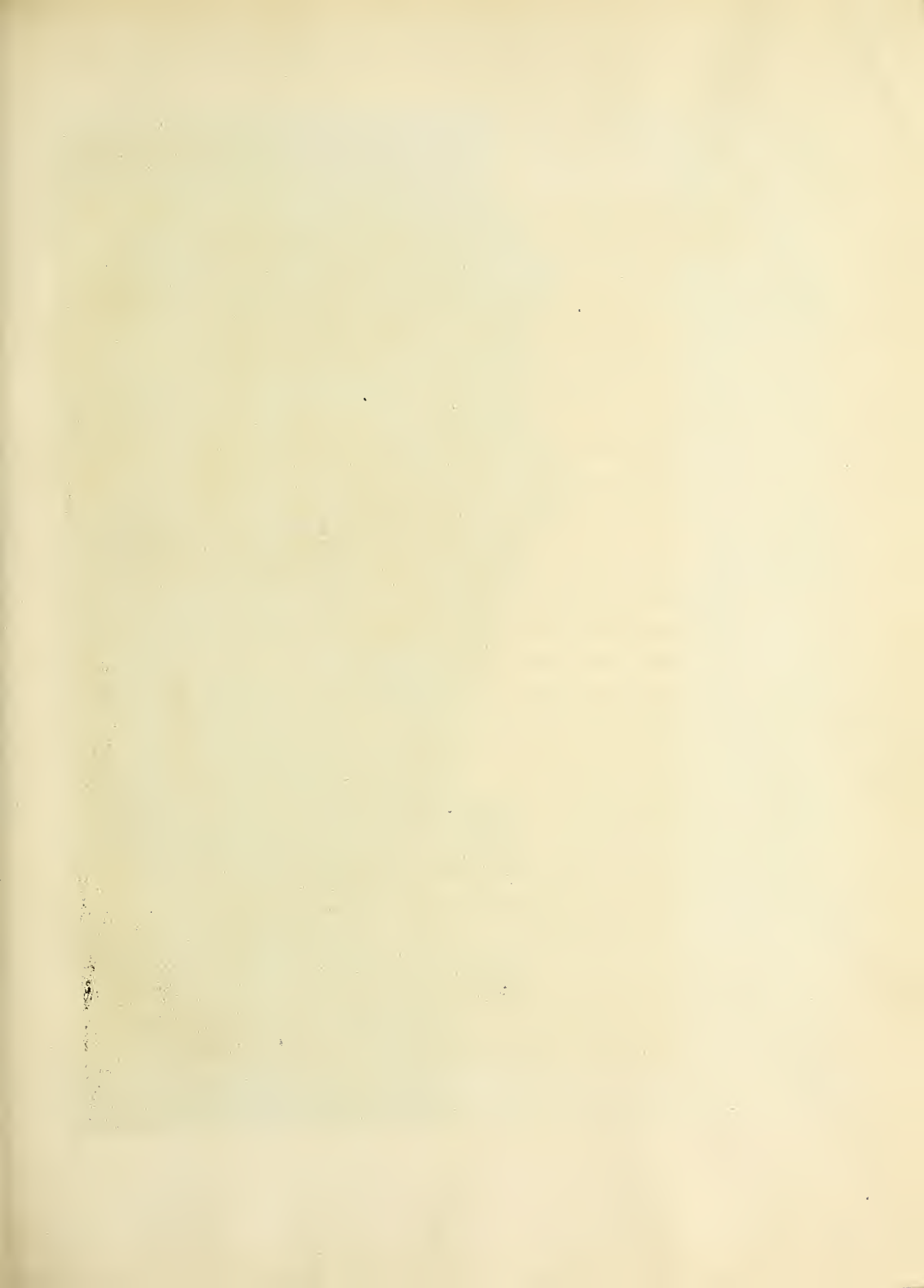
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reach the Bokke Veld. This place is called Two Fountain; and is situated to the south-east of the Camis Berg.

We directed our course from this place to the Thorn River, where we reposed during the heat of the day. In the afternoon we continued our journey to the Hartebest Rivier, and remained there all night.

On the fourteenth, we found the Brack Fountain nearly dried up, and so bitter, that our cattle refused to drink of the water. Here, however, we stayed all night, and early the next morning proceeded on our journey towards the Lion's Den, where we flattered ourselves with the hopes of finding water; but were disappointed, for not a single drop of water was discoverable in this place. We, however, unyoked our cattle, and rested about two hours. In the afternoon we proceeded towards the Stink Fountain, which was distant about thirty miles. In the night we lost our way, and were obliged to sleep in this dry desert. The next morning we saw the Bokke Lands Bergen to the south-east of us, about twenty miles. Mr. Van Renan and I left the waggon at an early hour, directing our course to the Bokke Land; and sent a fresh team of oxen from thence to relieve ours, which were greatly fatigued, and scarcely able to stand, in consequence of the injury they had received in their hoofs from the sharp stones.

On the seventeenth, we brought our waggon to the house of Mrs. Ryck. My intention was to cross the country, from this place to the great nation of Caffres, which is about nine





BOSCINIENS HABITATIONS.

hundred miles to the south-east; but finding both my oxen and waggon in very indifferent order, for so long a journey, I altered my plan, and conceived the design of making an excursion to the Hentum, and part of the Boshmen's Land. This day we had several loud claps of thunder, and heavy rain. The variable state of the weather detained me here several days, during which I collected a variety of plants.

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When we left the Bokke Land, we directed our course eastward, and arrived, on the twenty-third, at the house of Christian Bockchere, where I passed the night.

The following day we had stormy weather, and heavy showers of rain and sleet; and towards the evening, hail and snow. At eight in the evening, the thermometer was at forty-three degrees. The next morning a severe frost killed most of the corn, which at this time was about a foot in height; a circumstance which frequently occurs in this part of the country.

I made an excursion, on the twenty-seventh, to the northward, which is called the Boshmen's Land, from its being inhabited by the Bush Hottentots, who are a very different people from the other peaceable and well disposed inhabitants of this region. They are in fact, fierce, cruel, and dishonest.

In this tour I visited a house belonging to a Dutchman, who had lived here for many years. A few weeks before our arrival he had been attacked by the Boshmen, who had

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killed four of his Hottentots, and wounded another. These marauders carried away also several of his cattle, which he was never able to recover.

The twenty-ninth, upon leaving the Hentum, we returned to the Bokke Lands Bergen, intending to return to the Cape, along the shore of the Atlantic Ocean.

The thirty-first, when arrived at the Bokke Land, we were compelled to remain there several days, from the state of the weather, which was very rainy and variable. I there found many curious plants, among which was one called Elephant's Foot*. I could find none of them in flower, but on my passage to Europe, on board the *Held Woltemade*, Dutch East Indiaman, was fortunate enough to have one of them, which flowered in the month of April. Upon examination, I found it to be a plant of the class *Dioecia Hexandria*. It has a large solid bulb, which sprouts to the height of five or six feet, and afterwards shoots out into small climbing branches with roundish heart-shaped leaves. The natives eat the root, which they esteem very salubrious.

We took leave of this place on the sixth of November, accompanied by two sons of Mrs. Ryck, and an overseer of Mr. Van Renan's farms, in this part of the country, who was going on a shooting party. I also partook of the diversion, and left the waggon to proceed to a place called the Lion's Dance,

* Smilax.

where we intended to stay all night. Our way lay through a low country of a clayey soil, called Karo. We saw much game; and the servant of Mr. Van Renan, being an excellent marksman, shot two Elks, both of which were much larger than an English bullock: the flesh of this animal is palatable though dry. At night we returned to the Lion's Dance, where we found our waggon.

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Early, on the seventh, we parted with our friends, and directed our course south-west, having the Bokke Lands Bergen on our left hand, and the Atlantic Ocean on our right, at the distance of about thirty miles. We travelled the whole day and till midnight, when we found a fountain of brackish water. We rested at the side of this fountain the remaining part of the night.

The next day my companion and myself left the waggon, and directed our course west north-west. In the afternoon we arrived at the Elephant's River, and found it so deep that our horses swam about ten yards. We soon reached the opposite shore, where, at a little distance, was the house of a Dutchman who had lived many years on the banks of this river, and kept a small boat for transporting waggons, in time of necessity. We stayed here, waiting for our waggon, and dried our clothes.

We were employed, during the following day, in transporting our baggage over the river. On the banks of it are many large trees of *Mimosa* and *Tarchonanthus Camphoratus*. The

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country around is rather naked of trees ; but produces a great variety of succulent plants.

We were furnished by our benevolent host with a team of fresh oxen, which were necessary to enable us to pass through a deep sandy plain ; and were accompanied by a peasant of the Nimiqua Land, who was travelling towards the Cape. We continued our journey about twenty miles to the southward, and at night came to a large cove, called the Heer Lodgement*, where we rested till the next day. In the afternoon we proceeded on our journey through a deep white sandy plain, where were a variety of plants, such as the Aspalathus, Leucadendron, and many others which were unknown to me. We travelled till midnight, when we found a little water, near which we passed the night. The next morning we proceeded to a farm, called the Long Valley, which is distant from the Elephant's River about sixty miles. Here we stayed all night, and were, as usual, hospitably entertained.

From this place we directed our course east by south, along the valley. In the night some animal sprung out of a bush, which so greatly alarmed our oxen, that it was with difficulty we could keep them still. We supposed the noise to proceed from an Hyena, as we heard the cries of those animals some time after at a very considerable distance.

The fourteenth, we arrived at the Berg Valley, where we stayed all night, at the house of Josias Engelbright.

* Gentlemens Lodgings.

I dispatched my waggon, on the fifteenth, towards the Picquet Berg, and together, with my companion, passed the day in this place, where I shot variety of birds, which I found in great abundance.

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The next day we proceeded on our journey; passed a place called the Crosse, where the Berg Valley joins the Venlore Valley, and both assume a westward direction. At noon we overtook the waggon, and rested the afternoon at the house of a Mr. Smith. Towards the evening, Mr. Smith and I made a short excursion towards the hill, and took each of us a gun. On our return we shot four large Flamingoes, from four to five and six feet long. We saw also the Yellow Snake, or Covra Capel.

We afterwards directed our course along the Picquet Berg, on the side of the large chain of mountains which commences at the end of the Hottniqua Land, and extends through the interior part of the country to about twenty miles from the Atlantic Ocean.

In the afternoon we arrived at the house of a Dutchman, where we stayed all night, and were well entertained. This farm is fruitful, producing plenty of corn and European fruits.

The following day I made an excursion to the top of the mountain, where I had a view of the Table Land to the southward, distant about sixty or seventy miles. Here I collected but few plants. The mountain is well watered, and is

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covered with variety of grafs. There is alfo a farm here belonging to Mr. Hana Camp, where he kept part of his cattle during fummer ; but in the winter it is often covered with fnow. On my return I faw feveral Zebras, which inhabit the mountain ; but as they are not found in confiderable numbers, fhooting them is prohibited. After refreshing myfelf, I followed my waggon, and towards the evening overtook it. About midnight we came to the Berg Rivier, where there is a ferry ; we continued here during the remaining part of the night.

The next morning my companion and myfelf left the waggon, and traversed Swart Land, or Black Land, leaving the Rie Beck's Caftiel* on our left. In the afternoon we paffed the Swart Land's Church, and at night came to the houfe of Clafs Lopfer, which is fituated on the Deep River. He was juft arrived from the Cape, and had brought with him fome excellent wine, to which he very liberally made us welcome.

We directed our courfe along the Camis Berg, and obferved the farmers were now engaged in their harveft. At noon we came to a place belonging to the Dutch company, called Filhers Hook, where we refreshed ourfelves, and in the afternoon proceeded on our journey to the Cape Town, where I arrived on the twentieth of November, feventeen hundred and feventy-eight, after a journey of fix months.

* Takes its name from Governor Van Rie Beck.

THIRD JOURNEY.

Caffraria quite unknown to Europeans—Channa Lands Height—Well cultivated farm of Okker Hynns—Longe Kloaf—Crooked River—Camtours Rivier—Forrest of Mimosa—Lorie River—Van Stada's River—Curious plants and animals—Description of the Hartebeest—Zout Pan, a curious salt lake—Total neglect of agriculture in this country—Wild Dogs—Sondays Rivier, nine hundred miles from the Cape—State of the Dutch boors in this country—Sand Fleet—Chonacguas—Wars between the Chonacguas and Caffres—Cattle stolen by the Caffres—Great Fish River—Curious plant—Hunting the Buffalo—Difficulty of crossing the woods—Extensive prospect of the Indian Ocean, &c.—Caffraria; hospitality of the people—Manners of the Caffres—King of the Caffres; his palace and rural state; hospitality and generosity of this monarch—Curious manufactures of Caffraria—Method of making bread from the pith of the palm tree—Faction among the Caffres—Description of the country and people—Soil and climate—Adventures on returning—Klow sickness among the cattle.

IN my third journey it was my fortune to traverse a part of the continent of Africa, which never had been visited before by any European; nor do I know that any traveller has since been permitted to visit it, I mean Caffraria. So jealous are these people of the incroachments of the Dutch, (who are the only Europeans they are acquainted with) that they strictly prohibit individuals from entering their territory; while its remoteness has prevented the States, or the Company, from considering it as an object of conquest. I was not, however, deterred from the attempt by the difficulty of the undertaking; and with this great object in view, I set out from Cape Town, on the twenty-third of December, and proceeded

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towards Zwellendam, where I arrived the third of January, seventeen hundred and seventy-nine. Here I was joined by one of the Company's overseers, Mr. Tunies, who was going to the eastward to exchange cattle for tobacco and beads.

We continued our journey to Groot Faders Bosch, and on the eighth passed the Doven Hocks Rivier, where we remained all night.

The following day we passed the False River, and Caffre Kulls Rivier; and thence proceeded to the Gouds Rivier. We next directed our course to the Hagal Kraal, leaving the shore of the Indian Ocean on our right hand, at the distance of about ten miles; and on the twelfth our road lay over a large chain of mountains, which I mentioned in my first journey in this country, Atquas Kloaf, which is very difficult to pass.

We prosecuted our journey from this quarter eastward, through part of the Canna Land. In the afternoon of the thirteenth, we descended a very rugged and steep path, called the Canna Lands Height. The country has a very barren appearance, scarcely any vegetation being visible, except a few dwarfish shrubs, without verdure. In the course of the evening, I was much surprised with the appearance of cultivated land. This belonged to one Okker Hynns, an industrious farmer, who in this dreary situation had erected a good house, and planted gardens and vineyards, which produced tolerable wine and excellent fruit, such as Almonds, Figs, Peaches,

Apricots, &c. which he dries and sends to the Cape for sale. About three weeks before our arrival, there had been a very heavy storm of hail and wind; the hail-stones, which were of an enormous size, and the impetuous wind, had destroyed every thing about his house. His corn, vineyard, and fruit-trees, were totally spoiled; one of his children, who was at the time keeping a flock of sheep at some distance from any shelter, was very much hurt, and many of the sheep were killed.

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In the cool of the evening we travelled to a small river, about six miles distant from this place, where we continued all night.

We proceeded in our course to the eastward, on the fourteenth, and in the evening arrived at the house of one Rulof Comphor. This is the beginning of the Lange Kloaf, which Mr. Maſon remarks, is about an hundred miles long, and about two miles in breadth; the soil is a strong reddish clay, and the pasture very unwholesome for cattle. Since the year seventeen hundred and seventy-four, this part of the country has been much improved, the farmers have cultivated corn-land, gardens, and vineyards, and in general are possessed of very good houses. We prosecuted our journey along this valley, making short stages, where I collected many plants and specimens.

On the twentieth, we arrived at the Krome Rivier, or Crooked River, which runs through a long marshy valley

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bounded by two ridges of hills, but not so lofty as that of the Lange Kloaf. At the mouth of this river is a kind of bay, which may afford a safe harbour for ships. This part of the coast is but little known, particularly to the east.

In the afternoon we came to a place, called Effen Bosch, (from a tree very useful in making waggons, which the Dutch call Effen, or Ash.) We thence proceeded to a house beautifully situated on the banks of a pleasant river, called Cablews River, from a fish which goes by that name, and which is a species of Cod, being found near its mouth. This house being the property of my particular friend, Mr. Van Renan, I staid a day, and visited the shore, which is only about an English mile distant. Among the rocks we found abundance of Oysters, which were very good. Here is excellent pasture for cattle, and the farm produces plenty of corn, wine, and European fruits.

We continued our journey, on the twenty-third, to the Camtours Rivier, where we rested during the heat of the day. On the banks of this river are woods of very large trees, particularly of the Mimosa, and other arborious plants peculiar to this country. These woods are generally frequented by wild buffaloes, which are very fierce, and which consequently render travelling very dangerous. In the afternoon we were accompanied by a servant of Mr. Van Renan, who was going towards the Lorie Rivier. About ten o'clock at night, we arrived at the place where my waggon already was, and to our great surprize saw a wild buffalo standing close to it,

which we at first took for one of my oxen. Before we could ascertain whether this was the case or not, it sprung into the wood. The Lorie River derives its name from a species of that bird, which is found in the woods on its banks, and joins the Camtours about a mile to the southward. The deep places are inhabited by the Hippopotamus Amphibius; but these animals have been so much hunted, that they seldom make their appearance out of the water.

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We directed our course from this place, south by east, through an uneven country, and in the evening came to Van Stada's Rivier, where we observed a beautiful wood upon the declivity of a hill, extending to the very banks of the river. Here I found some plants of the Aletris Fragrens, upwards of twenty feet in height, and many in flower, as well as other beautiful plants. There were also a great variety of birds of the most beautiful plumage I had ever seen in the country.

On the twenty-sixth I visited the sea-shore, which was five or six miles to the southward. About a thousand yards from the sea, the mouth of the river forms a lake, being dammed up by a bank of sand, which extends along the shore. In the afternoon we continued our journey through an extensive plain, where I found variety of bulbous plants, and numerous herds of the different animals peculiar to this country, such as the Eland, Quacha, Zebra, and a species of Antelope, called by the Dutch, Hartebeest, which is the Capra Dorcas of Lin-

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January. næus. We had the good fortune to shoot one of these, the dimensions were,

					Feet. Inches.
The length of the head,	-	-	-	-	1 4
Breadth of the jaw,	-	-	-	-	0 7
Length of the ear,	-	-	-	-	0 8½
Ditto of the neck,	-	-	-	-	1 2
Breadth of the shoulders,	-	-	-	-	0 10
Length of the fore legs,	-	-	-	-	2 6
Height behind,	-	-	-	-	4 1½
Ditto before,	-	-	-	-	4 0½
Length of the body,	-	-	-	-	4 0
Ditto of the whole, from the tail to the head,					5 6

The Hartebeest is of a brownish colour, and the flesh is palatable though dry.

This evening we arrived at the Swart Kops Rivier, where we passed the night.

The next morning we were overtaken by a peasant who was on his way to the Boshmens Land, and was glad to accompany us, as this place lay in our way. As he was a man well acquainted with the country, and the manners of the natives, he was not a less welcome companion to us than we had appeared to him.

At noon we passed the Swart Kops Rivier. Zout Pan, which is situate in this neighbourhood, is an object that cannot

fail to attract the attention of travellers. This lake is a plain much above the level of the sea, and between three and four miles in circumference. At some seasons of the year it is formed into an entire mass of fine white salt, which has a very striking appearance. The heavy rains had dissolved the middle part of it, a short time before my arrival, but round the sides was a hard crust of salt exactly resembling ice.

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The adjacent country is covered with variety of frutescent and succulent plants, many of which were quite new, in particular some of the Euphorbia. Here we were visited by two Caffres, the first we had seen; for they very seldom venture so far out of their own country. At night we arrived at a place, called by the Hottentots Kow Cha, which is much frequented by Lions, Rhinoceroses and Buffaloes. The soil is of a sandy loam, and produces excellent pasture for cattle, but no corn; there is, however, no proof that the land is not fitted to produce grain, for no pains is taken, at this distance from the Cape, to cultivate the ground.

We proceeded, on the twenty-ninth, to the eastward, towards the Sondags Rivier, or Sundays River. The face of the country, at this place, has a very barren appearance; but it produces a variety of arboreous plants, though very few of any considerable height or size, which demonstrates the poverty of the soil. On our way we saw great numbers of wild Dogs, which travel in flocks, and are very destructive when they get where there are flocks of sheep. Wild Dogs are also found very near the Cape. They are much larger than the Jackal, with

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large irregular blotches or spots on their skin. After a very disagreeable day's march, through a dry stony country, we arrived at night at the Sundays River, which is distant from the Cape Town about nine hundred miles. This river was the extent of Mr. Mafon's journey to the eastward. There are still some of the Hippopotami found here, but they are very shy.

The following day I visited one of the Dutch boors, who had resided in that part of the country for many years. This man was possessed of numerous herds of cattle; but had no corn, and scarcely a house to live in, though the place was favourable for both. But the generality of those people are of so indolent a disposition, that they seldom trouble themselves either to build houses or to cultivate the ground. Those of them who chuse to be industrious, and to make the most of their advantages, are enabled to live in a very comfortable manner.

One of our companions, Mr. Tunies, left us on the thirty-first, and we were joined by Jacob Kock, an old German, whom I mentioned at Swart Kops Rivier. Mr. Van Renan and I went on towards the Great Fish River. At noon we overtook our waggon at a place which, in the Hottentot language, is called Curnow. We were informed by our servants, that they had been disturbed in the night by some Elephants, which came very near the waggon.

In the afternoon we continued our journey to a plantation, called the Sand Fleet, belonging to our fellow traveller, Jacob

Kock. The country here is extremely beautiful and picturesque, very hilly, and the hills are shaded with impenetrable woods; the vallies well watered and covered with grafs, which affords excellent pasture for cattle. Great numbers of quadrupeds inhabit this neighbourhood, such as Lions, Panthers, Elephants, Rhinoceroses, Buffaloes, Spring Bocks, &c. At a little distance to the eastward are some Kraals belonging to the tribe of Hottentots, called Chonacquas. These people are much darker in their complexion, and better shaped than any of the other tribes I had before seen. Whether this difference arises from their mixing with the Caffres, several of whom dwell in this part of the country, or from any other cause, I could not ascertain. It is not very uncommon for the Caffres and Chonacquas to quarrel, which generally ends in an engagement. In these encounters several hundreds of the Caffres sometimes unite to oppose their enemies, who very seldom bring a proportionable force into the field. But the dexterity with which the Hottentots use their bows and arrows, and the practice of poisoning the latter, render them very dangerous enemies to those who only use the Hassagai. The disputes between these people generally originate about cattle, of which both nations are extremely avaricious.

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We directed our course eastward, to the Boshman's River, and at noon I visited a Kraal belonging to a Hottentot captain, called De Royter. This man has upwards of two hundred Hottentots and Caffres in his service, and a few hours before our arrival, had fought against a number of Caffres,

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had beaten them off the field, and taken many of their cattle.

We arrived, after some time, at a lake of brackish water, called by the Hottentots, K̄ys Gūna K̄ie K̄atie ; each of these letters, which are accented, are pronounced with a hard impulse of the tongue ; at this place we stayed all the whole night of the first of February.

We intended, early the following morning, to prosecute our intended journey ; but missing our cattle, our first care was to dispatch our Hottentots in search of them. In a few hours one of the men returned and informed us, that they had been stolen by the Caffres, that they had discerned the prints of their feet, and saw, from tracing them, that the cattle had been driven towards a village belonging to a Caffre captain, whose name was Mahhotie. We sent our messenger to the other Hottentots, and ordered them to follow the path of the cattle till they found them, which they did. They returned with them towards the evening, and informed us that they were found a little way from the Kraal. One of the Caffres told them, they had taken the cattle by mistake, the evening being dark, they thought they belonged to the Hottentots with whom they had fought the day before. Though it was now late, we continued our journey about twenty miles. In the night we arrived at a place, called the K'a Cha Chow, which is one of the branches of the Boshman's River, and where there was formerly a house belonging to our companion, Jacob Kock.

The morning, of the third, I requested Mr. Kock to accompany us to the Great Fish River, with which he readily complied. We thence pursued our journey to the eastward, through a pleasant country, though quite uninhabited. There are numerous herds of quadrupeds to be found here, of the different species which have been already described. The grass was so high that it reached our horses bellies. This part of the country is agreeably diversified with little pleasant woods upon the declivities of the hills ; and here I found a species of *Leucadendron* which was quite unknown to me, and many other beautiful plants. A species of Palm, mentioned by Mr. Mason in his Second Journey, is also scattered over the whole country ; I found several upwards of twenty feet in height. The Hottentots make bread of the pith of this plant ; the method of preparing which I shall take another opportunity of describing. In the evening we came to a place, called Now Tu.

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That the reader may have a proper idea of our course, I am obliged more frequently to refer to the points of the compass than, perhaps, may be thought consistent with elegance. Our road from this place lay east by north. On the fourth, at noon, we came to a small river, which at this time was almost dry ; we, however, rested a few hours, seeing a herd of Buffaloes at a distance from us, which we intended to amuse ourselves with shooting in the afternoon. In this place I found a beautiful plant of the Liliaceous kind, with a large crown of white and red flowers. After dinner we divided ourselves into different parties, and as soon as we were within shot we at-

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tacked the buffaloes ; they were about an hundred in number ; five of them we shot ; the others fled into a wood, which was about a mile to the eastward of us. Mr. Kock had the animals skinned ; their hides making such excellent thongs for oxen that they are preferred to every other material for this purpose. At night we arrived at the Fish River, where we stayed two days. During the night we had heavy showers of rain, with loud claps of thunder. Here the river assumes a southern direction, and empties itself into the great Indian Ocean, at about twenty miles distance. The deepest parts of the river are inhabited by the Hippopotamus, and the adjacent woods by Elephants, Rhinoceroses, and Buffaloes. We shot several of the buffaloes, which were much heavier than an European bullock.

Seeing no possibility of proceeding farther with our waggon through the impenetrable woods, we agreed that Mr. Van Renan should continue with it, while Mr. Kock and I proceeded easterly towards the Caffres, being informed that we could reach their country in two or three days. Most of the arboreous plants in these parts were unknown to me, except the *Euphorbia Antiquorum*, *Erythrina Corallodendron*, and the *Gardenia Stellata*. We took with us a Hottentot who was perfectly acquainted with the language of the Caffres. In passing through the thickets, on the banks of the Fish River, we encountered considerable difficulties, till we fortunately got into an Elephant's path, in which we continued till noon. We then crossed the river and entered a spacious plain, which afforded us great variety of the most beautiful evergreens I

had ever seen ; and several bulbous plants, such as Irises and Crinums, many of which I found in flower. I particularly noticed one species of this plant, the flowers of which were crimson, and in beauty and elegance far exceeded any I had ever met with. In the evening we encamped under a large Mimosa, and made fires during the night.

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After passing this extensive plain, we entered a wood about eight miles broad. In many places the trees were thinly scattered ; in these openings we discovered numerous herds of Buffaloes, which had not the least appearance of shyness ; one of them we wounded. Soon after this we saw a herd of Elephants, about eighty in number, which approached so near to us, that we could observe the length and thickness of their teeth. After leaving the wood, we ascended a steep mountain, where we had a view of the Indian Ocean to the southward ; and to the northward, a hilly country covered with trees and evergreen shrubs, which extended about thirty miles. The prospect was bounded by a range of mountains, called the Bamboo Berg, on which grows a species of Bamboo. To the east we had a view of a pleasant country decorated with great variety of plants. The country is here well watered, and produces excellent pasture for cattle. Towards the evening, of the seventh, we observed a fire about ten miles to the eastward of us, upon the slope of a green hill. Our interpreter told us this was at a Caffre village. At sunset we discovered another much nearer, and saw several herds of cattle. About eight in the evening we met three of the Caffres, who were much surprised at our appearance, as we were certainly the

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first Europeans they had ever seen. They speedily returned and alarmed the whole village before we arrived; but on our arrival, they received us kindly, brought us milk, and offered us a fat bullock agreeably to their usual hospitable custom. This village consisted of about fifty houses, situate on the banks of a pleasant river, called in the Caffre language, Mugu Ranie; and it belongs to their chief. It contained about three hundred inhabitants, all of whom were servants or soldiers to their chief, who was likewise the proprietor of the numerous herds of cattle. These people subsist on the milk of their cows, and on game, not being allowed to kill any of their cattle. The men milk the cows, and the women take care of the gardens and corn.

We were accompanied by all these people from one village to another, till we arrived at the place belonging to the person whom they denominate their chief or king. His habitation was situate on a pleasant river, called Becha Cum, or Milk River. Indeed all their houses are built on the banks of rivers or streams; but there was no corn or garden near it. The chief had about an hundred cows, which supplied him and his household with milk. His family consisted of about twenty-two servants, who attended him wherever he went. On our arrival he seemed very shy, and kept at a great distance for about an hour, when a number of Caffres met and accompanied him to his house. He soon afterwards sent one of his servants to invite us thither. The first thing I presented him with was some beads, of which he freely accepted. I also offered him some of our tobacco; but he seemed to prefer his.

own, which was much lighter. He soon offered me a herd of fat bullocks in return; but I refused to take them, which seemed to affront him greatly, and he often repeated, "What do you think of our country." After a few words between us, I accepted of one, which we immediately shot; this surprised all the spectators, who were about six hundred persons, few of them having ever seen a gun, or heard the report of one. We had a part of the bullock dressed, which I thought much superior to the beef near the Cape. The rest of the animal I distributed to the king and his servants. He still seemed displeased that I would accept of nothing more in return. I then asked him for some of their baskets, which he gave me, and also two of their lances or Hassagais, which they make with great ingenuity; but the construction of the baskets, which are made by their women, is much more surprising; they are composed of grass, and woven so closely that they are capable of holding any fluid. Khouta, the chief, intreated me to remain with him a few days; this, however, we did not consent to; but after much persuasion, agreed to stay all night. In the afternoon I ranged the neighbouring woods in search of plants, and at night returned to my companion, who stayed at the Becha Cum. As the weather was hot, we chose to sleep in the woods rather than in any of the huts. During the night I observed that there were two guards placed on each side the door of the chief's house, who were relieved about every two hours.

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On the ninth, I proposed to proceed farther to the east, allured by the pleasantness of the country, and its affording

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variety of unknown plants, but found there was a river a little to the eastward of us, called by the natives, the Kys Comma. We then determined to return the same way we came. The large Palm, mentioned before, grows here in abundance, and is used for bread by the Caffres as well as the Hottentots. They take the pith of this plant, and after collecting a sufficient quantity, let it lie for several days till it becomes a little sour; after this they bake it in an oven which is erected for the purpose. They also bake bread of their own corn, which is the same as the Guinea corn. But this grain is mostly used for making punch, called by some of them Pombie, which is strong and intoxicating. They make considerable use of a plant, called by the natives Plantains, which grows spontaneously on the banks of the rivers, and in the woods. The pods of this plant are triangular, and about the size of a prickly cucumber. I found none of them in flower, but several in fruit; the seed is about as large as a pea; and I believe it to be what Dr. Tunberg calls the *Helaconia Caffraria*.

The men amongst the Caffres are from five feet ten inches to six feet high, and well proportioned, and in general evince great courage in attacking Lions, or any beasts of prey. This nation is now divided into two parties; to the northward are a number of them commanded by one Chatha Bea, or Tambuthie, who has obtained the latter denomination from his mother, a woman of the tribe of Hottentots, called Tambukies. This man was the son of a chief, called Pharoa, who died about three years before, and left two sons, Cha Cha Bea, and another named Dsirika, who claimed the supreme authority on

account of his mother being of the Caffre nation. This ^{1779.} February. occasioned a contest between the two brothers, in the course of which Cha Cha Bea was driven out of his territories, with a number of his adherents. The unfortunate chief travelled about an hundred miles to the northward of Khouta, where he now resides, and has entered into an alliance with the Boshmen Hottentots.

The colour of the Caffres is a jet black, their teeth white as ivory, and their eyes large. The cloathing of both sexes is nearly the same, consisting entirely of the hides of oxen, which are as pliant as cloth. The men wear tails of different animals tied round their thighs, pieces of brass in their hair, and large ivory rings on their arms; they are also adorned with the hair of Lions, and feathers fastened on their heads, with many other fantastical ornaments. When they are about nine years of age they undergo the operation of being circumcised, and afterwards wear a muzzle of leather which covers the extremity of the penis, and is suspended by a leathern thong from their middle. This covering is in general ornamented with beads and brass rings, which they purchase from the Hottentots for tobacco and Dacka. They are extremely fond of dogs, which they exchange for cattle, and to such a height do they carry this passion, that if one particularly pleases them, they will give two bullocks in exchange for it. Their whole exercise through the day is hunting, fighting, or dancing. They are expert in throwing their lances, and in time of war use shields made of the hides of oxen. The women are employed in the cultivation of their gardens and corn.

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They cultivate several vegetables, which are not indigenous to their country, such as Tobacco, Water-melons, a small sort of Kidney-beans, and Hemp, none of which I found growing spontaneously. The women make their baskets, and the mats which they sleep on. The men have great pride in their cattle; they cut their horns in such a way as to be able to turn them into any shape they please, and teach them to answer a whistle. Some of them use an instrument for this purpose, similar to a Boshuman's pipe. When they with their cattle to return home, they go a little way from the house and blow this small instrument, which is made of ivory or bone, and so constructed as to be heard at a great distance, and in this manner bring all their cattle home without any difficulty. The soil of this country is a blackish loomy ground, and so extremely fertile, that every vegetable substance, whether sown or planted, grows here with great luxuriance.

There are great variations in the climate; but I had no thermometer to observe the degrees of heat. It seldom rains except in the summer season, when it is accompanied with thunder and lightning. The country is, however, extremely well supplied with water, not only from the high land to the north, which furnishes abundance throughout the year, but from many fountains of excellent water, which are found in the woods. From what I observed of this country, I am induced to believe that it is greatly superior to any other known part of Africa.

The woods produce variety of arboreous plants, and some of a great size: they are inhabited by Elephants, Buffaloes, &c. ^{1779.} February. There were also variety of beautiful Birds and Butterflies; but they were so shy, that I was able only to preserve two Birds of that country.

When we returned to our waggon, on the ninth, we were accompanied by the chief and about six hundred of his servants or soldiers, who followed us till noon, when we took leave of them. We then directed our course towards the Great Fish River, where we stayed all night.

The next morning we left our Hottentot, with a gun, as he was so much fatigued that he could not keep pace with us. Two days afterwards he overtook us, and on his way had shot two Rhinoceroses, and brought part of the flesh with him, which proved good eating, being very young and tender.

On the twelfth we proceeded on our return by the route we had before taken; and I collected many seeds, and fruits of evergreens, in the woods.

We arrived at the Now Tio towards the evening. Mr. Van Renan left the waggon, accompanied by some Hottentots, with an intention of shooting at a herd of Buffaloes, which they observed at about the distance of a mile. Before they returned there were many loud claps of thunder, with lightning and heavy rain; and it became so dark that they lost their way. We could make no fires, on account of the rain, till about

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nine, when the storm was much abated, and we lighted several, which they soon saw. About ten, they arrived at the waggon. Mr. Van Renan I found had fallen into the river.

The next morning we missed our cattle, and dispatched our Hottentots in pursuit of them, who returned in the evening without having observed any traces of them.

The following morning Mr. Kock and I saddled our horses, and directed our course through the country in search of them, and found them at the Boshman's River, about twenty miles distant. We then returned with some of Mr. Kock's Hottentots.

Upon our arrival at Cableows Rivier, we agreed to remain in that place a few days. Here we were supplied with great variety of fruit, as it was in the height of the season for Grapes, Water-melons, and Peaches.

After parting with our hospitable friend, we directed our course south by west, towards the house of our companion, Mr. Kock, which is situate on the Zie Koe Rivier, or Sea Cow River, so called from its being formerly inhabited by the Hippopotamus. We here observed that many of our oxen were sick; they had caught a disease, called the Klow sickness, which rages among the horned cattle in the summer, and affects their hoofs so much that they drop off, and numbers of the cattle die. Mr. Van Renan dispatched one of

his Hottentots to his father's house, who returned to us with a supply of fresh cattle.

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We proceeded westward from this place, and on the first of March, in the evening, arrived at the house of a Dutchman, where we rested that night, and the next day passed the Krome Rivier.

In a few days we arrived at the house of one Veraira, a wealthy farmer, where we had the mortification to find our cattle in the same condition as before, and those we had brought from the Cableows River still worse than the others.

Upon finding the country extremely dry, and scarcely a plant to be seen, I left Mr. Van Renan with the waggon, and directed my course towards the Cape, where I arrived on the twenty-third of March, after a journey of three months.

FOURTH JOURNEY.

Rie Beck's Castle—Verloren Valley—Lose our way—Joined by Colonel Gordon—Separate again—Depredations by Lions—Hartebeest Rivier—Joined again by Colonel Gordon—Arrive at the last house to the northward, along the Atlantic Ocean—Fear of the natives to accompany us—Dreary deserts—Afflicting scarcity of water—Lose Mr. Pinar, Colonel Gordon's companion—Ostrich's nest—Orange River—Beautiful plants—Meet with Mr. Pinar: distressful situation of that gentleman, and the Hottentots who accompanied him—Wild Men: unable to form any intercourse with them: description of their huts—Converse at length with the natives—The country very thinly inhabited—Government and manners of these savages—Plant used by the Hottentots to produce fire—Herd of Zebras—Horned Snake—Part with Colonel Gordon—Copper Berg—Description of the woods on Orange River, and the animals found there—Lions River—Manners of the people in this part of Africa—Curious species of Sheep—Observations on the African mountains—Camelopardalis—Small Nimiqua Land—Camdinie Rivier—Hunting the Antelope—Plant made use of for poisoning Hyenas.

ON the eighteenth of June, seventeen hundred and seventy-nine, I again departed from the Cape Town, in company with Mr. Sebastian Van Renan. We directed our course to Ronde Bosch, his father's house, where we were detained three days by the inclemency of the weather.

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Upon leaving this place, we proceeded north, towards the Groena Kloaf, a country of which the greatest part belongs to the Dutch Company. After passing a heavy sand, we arrived

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at a house belonging to the Company's butcher, where we remained all night. Here I found Oxalises of several sorts, and Hyacinths. This part of the country abounds with variety of game. There are several sorts of Water-snipes, Pheasants, and Partridges. There is also the Sten Bock and Hartebeest; but at certain times of the year it is forbidden to shoot here.

From this place we directed our course north-east, through Swart Land, and in the evening arrived at Rie Beck's Castle, at the house of one Mr. Droyer, a wealthy farmer, where we remained two days. Hence I made an excursion to the Rie Beck's Castle Berg; but as this was the winter season, very few plants were in flower. On the top of this hill a piece of cannon is placed for the purpose of giving signals, to prevent surprize from an enemy, and to alarm the adjacent country.

We parted with our friendly host, Mr. Droyer, on the twenty-fifth, and continued our journey. In the evening we arrived at the Berg Rivier, where we stayed all night, and early next morning crossed it at a ferry. This day we proceeded on our journey to the Picquet Berg, and the next arrived at the Crois, where we stayed all night.

From this place we directed our course westerly, along the Verloren Valley, or Lost Valley; and in the evening came to the house of Mr. Gueff. During the night of the twenty-fifth, a very heavy rain fell, which swelled the river so much that the next day we found it impassable. The farmer was much pleased with our company, and intreated us to prolong

our stay for several days, to which, as the river still continued very high, we agreed. Upon seeing the waters subside, we proposed to proceed in our journey, and were assisted by our hospitable friend, who supplied us with some of his cattle, which were more accustomed to passing the flood than our own. The river was broad, and in several places the oxen were obliged to swim. When we reached the opposite shore we directed our course northward, through a high sandy country, interspersed with variety of *Aspalathuses*, *Gnaphaliums*, &c. At night we arrived at the Lange Valley, at the house of Mrs. Low, an old French woman, who had long lived in this part of the country, and was possessed of numerous herds of cattle; here we stayed all night.

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The following day we proceeded on our journey through a large sandy plain, towards the Hier Lodfiement, which is above forty miles distant. At night we came to the Jackals Valley, where, though we found no water, we were obliged to remain a few hours in order to refresh our oxen, which were much fatigued. About two in the morning we proceeded to the place where we intended to rest, and in our way called at the Hier Lodfiement, where we knew there would be water. We arrived at nine in the afternoon, and found a peasant who had arrived about two hours before us. I inquired which way he was going, observing he had many Hottentots and a number of guns in his waggon, he told me that his course was towards the Great River, and that he intended to accompany Colonel Gordon, whom I left at the Cape, but expected he would soon overtake us. In the afternoon we directed our course

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towards the Elephants River; but unluckily in the night lost our way. We saw some fires, which we expected had been made at the place of our destination; but on our arrival at the spot, we found they had been lighted by some Hottentots who had the care of a flock of sheep belonging to a Dutchman. One of them directed us on our right way, and at two in the morning we came to the house of Peter Van Syl, who had lived on the banks of this river for many years. Our waggon was so much damaged, on our journey hither from the Cape, that we were compelled to remain here a few days in order to have it repaired.

When this business was completed, we transported our baggage and waggon across the river, which at this time was high. In the evening Colonel Gordon arrived; but as he was pursuing a different route, we appointed to meet in the Small Nimiqua Land, and then to proceed together along the shore of the Atlantic Ocean, as far as we could possibly travel to the northward.

We next directed our course to the Bokke Lands Bergen, where we had appointed to receive a team of fresh oxen. When we arrived at the Bokke Veld, we ascended the mountain, and left the waggon by a small fountain; the path being impassable on account of the heavy rains which had fallen. At this place we supplied ourselves with some provision; and Mr. Van Renan took a cart with him, and sixteen bullocks belonging to his father.

We proceeded on our journey towards the Small Nimiqua Land, and arrived at the Thorn River, where, during the night of the sixteenth, we heard the roaring of Lions, which we supposed to be about a thousand yards from us. 1779.
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On our way to a place, called the Lion's Den, we met a Hottentot, who informed us that, at his Kraal, the family had been visited by the same Lions which we had heard, and that they had devoured two of his calves. This Hottentot was the servant of Mrs. Ryck, and lived here in the Karo during the winter season, the charge of part of her cattle having been committed to him. After travelling till night without finding a drop of water, and being so unfortunate as to lose our way, we were obliged to stop till the next morning. During the night Mr. Van Renan lost his horse, which we supposed had returned to the Bokke Veld, whence we had brought him. At day-light we proceeded on our journey, and at ten in the morning arrived at the Lion's Den, where we rested all day, and were visited by several of the Boshmen.

We next continued our journey to the Reed, or Brack Fountain, where we had very indifferent water, and thence proceeded to the Hartebest Rivier, where I found several beautiful plants.

From this place we went on to Three Fountain, where we stayed all night, and early the following day continued our journey north-west, to the Green River, where we had the

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On the banks of this river our caravan made a short stay, of which I was glad to take advantage in order to visit and inspect the slope of the Camis Berg, which is adorned with a great variety of evergreen shrubs ; but as this was the winter season I found very few in flower.

When properly rested, we determined on prosecuting our journey to the northward, having the Camis Berg on our right hand ; and in the evening, of the twenty-fifth, arrived at a Hottentot village, which consisted of eighteen huts, where we passed the night, and next day continued our course northward. At noon we met a peasant who had come from the Great River, and was travelling towards the Cape, accompanied by a deserter, who had been seven years absent, and had travelled over a great part of the country. This poor fellow was a native of Sweden, and made many sensible reflections upon his misfortunes in Africa. This evening we arrived at the house of one Hermannias Engelbright, where we stayed several days, and supplied ourselves with necessaries for our intended journey along the shore of the Atlantic Ocean, as this was the last house we were likely to meet with in our way. It is situate on a branch of the Camis Berg ; and, according to Colonel Gordon's observation of the barometer, we found it to be two thousand and eighty feet high, and in latitude thirty degrees. We were strenuously advised by the natives not to proceed farther. They informed us that we had to pass an uninha-

bited desert, where neither man nor beast was visible, where there was a great scarcity of water, and hardly a blade of grass for the support of our cattle. Notwithstanding these discouragements, we resolved to proceed as far as we possibly could; and it was agreed that one of us should set out a few days before the other, and that we should endeavour, if possible, to meet at the mouth of the Great River. Colonel Gordon accordingly parted from us, and proceeded on his intended journey, entirely without a guide, as the natives at that time refused to accompany us. The next day, after much persuasion, I prevailed on one, who was rather more spirited than the rest, to attend me, for which I recompensed him with some beads and tobacco; we were also accompanied by a brother of my companion, Jacobus Van Renan, who had been to the eastward to shoot Elephants.

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On the first of August, we departed from this place, and were supplied with a team of fresh oxen for two days. The day after our departure we continued our journey about ten miles to the western extremity of the mountain, where we had a view of the Atlantic at the distance of about forty miles. Here I collected several plants, such as *Ixias*, *Gladiolus*, &c.

We descended the mountain with much difficulty, as it was both steep and rugged; and towards the evening, of the second, we arrived at a fountain of brackish water. The soil in this part of the country consists of a sandy clay.

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We next directed our course through a sandy plain, where I found a variety of plants; but as most of them were of the succulent tribe, I could preserve no perfect specimens. In the evening we saw the dung of Elephants, and at night came to a hollow rock, where we had abundance of water; on the north and south side were lofty mountains of a conical figure, and covered with the Aloe Dichotoma.

In the afternoon, of the following day, we proceeded on our journey through a sandy country. In the night we passed several dangerous places, and saw the print of Lions, which occasioned us to stay all night at a pit of brackish water. This was not a country which flattered us with the expectation of pleasure; we therefore continued our journey northward, as soon as day, along a bed of heavy sand, between two precipices. This sand is driven down by the violent torrents of water which fall here during the summer season; but at this time the ground was almost dry, and the little water we found was rather salt; at many places indeed where the water had dried up, were quantities of excellent salt. At night we arrived at the Coufie, or Sand River; we were now about ten miles from the Atlantic Ocean, where the Sand River empties itself. The banks afforded us excellent pasture for our cattle, and as they were greatly fatigued, we agreed to rest a few days, and to range the adjacent fields in search of plants.

During our residence in this place, one of my Hottentots who had been upon the hill, told us that he saw two waggons about three miles to the westward, which we supposed to

belong to Colonel Gordon. Soon after I received a letter from him, and we proceeded to the Rhinoceros Fountain. The river was frequented by a variety of Water-fowl, which afforded us excellent sport; among these we found great numbers of Flamingoes, of two species, one much smaller than the other. We stayed here two days, and made excursions along the shore, where we saw strata of the most beautiful rocks I ever beheld, some of them as white as snow, and others veined with red and other colours, this we took for a species of quartz. Here we saw several huts made of the ribs of Whales, and others of Elephants bones; but we perceived that they had not been inhabited for many years.

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Colonel Gordon's companion, and the two Van Renans, being informed of a herd of Elephants which were seen to the northward, left us on the seventh, while we directed our course to the mouth of the river, where was a large lake of water which communicated with the sea. Here we expected to catch some fish, but we found none that were larger than a sprat. In the afternoon we shot some wild Ducks and returned to the waggon. In the evening our companions returned, finding the Elephants were gone.

From this place we directed our course north, through a sandy country. We travelled the whole day, and at night were informed by our guide, that we were not half way to the first water, and that, as it was extremely dark, he would not venture to conduct or direct us through the sandy downs which lay along the shore, and extended many miles to the eastward.

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On hearing this we determined to remain where we were till day-light, when we proceeded on our journey, through the most barren country I ever visited. Several of our Hottentots complained, and wanted much to return. After travelling all day and towards the evening, not discerning any appearance of water, the country every where being equally dry, we consulted with our guide, who seemed not perfectly to know, whether we had passed the water or not. We all agreed to set out with our guide in search of water, and leave the waggons under the care of a servant of Colonel Gordon, and took with us a few bottles, that if we should be fortunate enough to find water, we might send some to our Hottentots, who had not tasted any for two days. After travelling about four miles, we discovered a fountain on the shore, but which at high water was overflowed by the sea. This water was extremely disagreeable, and the quantity so small as to be barely sufficient for ourselves and our horses. After slightly refreshing ourselves, Colonel Gordon and an Hottentot returned to the waggon and took with them some water for our servants, while we determined to remain at the fountain. Here we shot some Flamingoes, which we eat. About midnight one of our Hottentots arrived, who had been absent from us two days; he had shot a Chamois Bock, part of which he brought with him, and it proved good eating.

The succeeding day we made an excursion along the coast, which is low and rocky, with strong surfs off shore, which break about four miles from the land. We tried to fish at several places, without success, but the rocks were covered

with Muscles, and in the inlets, or small bays, were numbers of wild Ducks, many of which we shot; but they were so oily, as to prove very disagreeable food. In my botanical researches, I found a variety of *Mezembryanthemum*, which I had never seen before.

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August.

After filling some empty casks, on the next day, we continued our journey northward. Colonel Gordon and myself left the waggon at ten in the morning, and pursued our journey along the shore, where we saw several huts. Great numbers of shells lay in heaps about those huts, which inclined us to suppose that the inhabitants subsisted entirely on the fish which they contained. At about one mile distant from the shore we saw a small island where we observed several pieces of wood stuck into the ground; but we could not perceive any huts, and were convinced, by the number of Seals which we saw every where round it, that at this time it was uninhabited. Along the shore we observed many bones of Seals. At nine in the evening we found that we had lost our way, and the guide advised us to continue where we were till next morning. This day Colonel Gordon's companion left us, and promised that he would return at night to the waggons. We accordingly made fires, that he might discern where we were, but in vain. We fastened the cattle, and remained in this place during the night.

In the morning we continued our course north, through a sandy country. We observed to the eastward a high ridge of sandy hills evidently thrown up by the south-east winds, which

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August.

blow here every day. At noon we observed we were in latitude twenty-nine degrees, five minutes; we then left the waggons, and directed our course along the shore, which was much elevated. In the highest rocks we found several petrifications of shells, some of which were about an hundred and fifty feet above the surface of the sea.

Colonel Gordon's cattle began to drop down in the waggon, having had neither grass nor water for two days; but my waggoners kept on their journey, and unknown to me left the others behind. At nine in the evening we overtook my waggon, and found our people had been consulting whether or not they should return, as they had not the least prospect of finding water. They supposed that Colonel Gordon's companion had lost his way, and were in great doubt whether we should ever see or hear of him more. About ten, one of the Hottentots arrived, who had left the waggon in company with him, but parted the first day. He brought the glad tidings, that he had found a fountain of excellent water about six miles to the northward, and brought a little with him in a calabash. This animated us greatly, and next morning Colonel Gordon and Jacobus Van Renan returned to his waggon, while we directed our course to the fountain, which we reached about nine, and the others arrived at noon. This place not only afforded us good water, but excellent grass for our cattle, and variety of succulent plants, such as Geraniums, Stapelias and Mezeimbryanthemums. This fountain is situate between the two precipices, which were much decayed and worn.

FOURTH JOURNEY.

III

We continued here a whole day in order to rest our cattle, and in the meanwhile Colonel Gordon and myself made an excursion to the sea, which was distant about nine miles. We saw many large Mimosa trees which had been thrown up by the ocean, and some at the distance of a mile from the water were almost buried in the sand; from these appearances we concluded we were not far from the Great River.

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We directed our course northward, on the fifteenth, and with much difficulty and fatigue we penetrated about ten miles, through a sandy country. In our road along the shore we observed the traces of human feet, which appeared so recent that we concluded some person had passed that way on that day or the day preceding. We were in hopes that these might have been some of the Hottentots who accompanied Mr. Pinar, Colonel Gordon's companion. In the night we made fires as a signal, but the signal was not answered; we concluded therefore that they must have been the wild natives; and from finding the skin of a Seal, which was quite fresh, our conjecture was confirmed. We now lost all hopes of ever seeing Mr. Pinar again, as he had been separated from us four days in these dreary deserts, without our having been able to discover whither he could have directed his steps.

During the following day our route lay to the northward, and at noon we passed two hills, which we had observed during our journey the two preceding days. As they were situate at a very small distance from each other, and were very similar in their figure and size, we gave them the name of the Two

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August.

Brothers ; and in this desolate region there was no one who could dispute any denomination by which we chose to distinguish whatever we met with. To the northward we discovered a large valley about three miles distant, but found there was no water. This Colonel Gordon called Benting's Valley. We were obliged to stay here all night, as our cattle was so much fatigued that it was impossible to proceed farther ; our guide informed us that we were then about eight miles from the river.

Early in the morning, Colonel Gordon, Jacobus Van Renan and I, left the waggons and proceeded on our journey. In our way we found an Ostrich nest, containing thirty-four fresh eggs, which proved excellent food. We saw several Zebras, Quachas, and Elks. At ten in the forenoon we arrived at the river, which appeared at once to be a new creation to us. After having passed nine days in crossing an arid and sultry desert, where no living animal was to be seen, and during which our cattle had but twice tasted the luxury of a drop of water. We here unsaddled our horses and refreshed ourselves by the side of the river, under the shade of a Willow, which hung over its banks ; and afterwards made an excursion along the river to the eastward, hoping that we should find some appearance of our lost companion, who had been seven days absent from the waggons. We observed several old uninhabited huts, where were numbers of Baboons bones, with those of various other wild beasts. About a thousand yards from the banks of the river, the country is extremely barren, and to the eastward very mountainous. On these eminences there is scarcely any

apparent vegetation ; but in the plain part of the country to the westward, I found a variety of the most beautiful plants, particularly Geraniums and *Afclepias* ; but very few of the succulent kind. The banks of the river produce lofty trees peculiar to this country, such as *Mimosa*, *Salix*, and a species of *Rhus*, called by the Dutch, *Rezyne Houd*. There are also a few trees of *Ebony* ; but to the eastward it grows in still greater abundance. In the afternoon our waggon not being arrived, we returned the same way we came, and found our people had taken a different direction. We followed their track, and overtook them near the mouth of the river.

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In the evening we launched Colonel Gordon's boat, and hoisted Dutch colours. Colonel Gordon proposed first to drink the States' health, and then that of the Prince of Orange, and the Company ; after which he gave the river the name of the Orange River, in honour of that Prince. We agreed to remain in this situation a few days, and to visit the opposite shore, as we had in this place very good pasture for our cattle.

The following day, therefore, we employed ourselves in fishing, and towards the evening had the great satisfaction of once more beholding our lost companion, Mr. Pinar, who arrived with three of the Hottentots. They looked dreadfully ill, having travelled five days through sultry deserts, over sandy hills and rocky mountains, without tasting food or swallowing a drop of water. On the fifth day they discovered a small fountain, where they left one of the Hottentots, who was so exhausted that they had no expectation he could survive the

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August.

day. Mr. Pinar appeared to be much less injured by his unfortunate expedition than the Hottentots ; their eyes were sunk in their heads, and they appeared more like dead than living men.

We made an excursion, on the nineteenth, along the shore, where we found numbers of wild Geese, Ducks, Flamingoes, Pelicans, &c. The land forms a flat point, which extends from the mouth of the river, north-west half west : the Two Brothers, south-east by south, are distant about twelve miles. The mouth is about half a mile in breadth ; but is enclosed by a ridge of rocks which lie a mile from the shore, in a direction east and west, and which render it impossible for ships to enter the river. The land is extremely low and barren ; to the westward, sandy ; and to the east, rocky. In the evening our Hottentot arrived, whom we had never expected to see again.

The next day I crossed the river, in company with Colonel Gordon, and left the boat in order to make an excursion to the westward. Here we observed the print of human feet, which appeared to us to be fresh. Upon this we resolved to pursue the track, and on our way saw several snares laid for the wild beasts. After travelling about five miles to the northward, we perceived some of the natives on a sandy hillock, about one mile from us ; we made several signals to them, but they seemed to be quite wild, and made their escape. We continued to follow their path, which brought us to their habitation ; but we were still as unable to bring about any inter-



HOTTENTOTS

Residing at the Mouth of Orange River.

Published March 30 1839 By J. Johnson, in St Pauls Churchyard.

course with them as before ; for the whole family immediately betook themselves to flight, except a little Dog, which seemed to be equally unacquainted with Europeans. Here we stayed some time, and examined their huts. In them we found several species of aromatic plants which they had been drying, and a few skins of Seals. Their huts were much superior to those of the generality of Hottentots ; they were loftier, and thatched with grass ; and were furnished with stools made of the back bones of the Grampus. Several species of fish were suspended from poles stuck into the ground. Having nothing about us which we thought would prove an acceptable present, Colonel Gordon cut the buttons from his coat, and deposited them among the aromatic plants which were drying. In the mean time we again observed these natives at the same place where we had first discovered them. We made every possible sign in order to allure them to us, and dispatched one of our Hottentots, who spoke to them and assured them we had no evil intention. After some time, Colonel Gordon went to them while I remained at their huts with the guns, and after much persuasion he induced them to return to their Kraal. They were eleven in number, and were the only natives who inhabited this part of the country. We inquired after other nations, but they could give us no account, except of the Nimiquas, whence we had just come. A Nimiqua woman who lived with them, was the only one of the company who knew any thing of Europeans. Though few in number, they were governed by a chief, whose name was Cout. The mode of living amongst these people was in the highest degree wretched ; and they are apparently the dirtiest of all the Hottentot tribes.

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Their dress is composed of the skins of Seals and Jackals, the flesh of which they eat. When it happens that a Grampus is cast ashore, they remove their huts to the place, and subsist upon it as long as any part of it remains; and in this manner it sometimes affords them sustenance for half a year, though in a great measure decayed and putrified by the sun. They smear their skins with the oil or train; the odour of which is so powerful, that their approach may be perceived some time before they present themselves to the sight. They carry their water in the shells of Ostrich eggs, and the bladders of Seals, which they shoot with bows. Their arrows are the same as those of all the other Hottentots.

Towards the evening we returned to our boat, accompanied by four of the natives. Our companions had been the whole day employed in fishing, with tolerable success; part of the fish they had taken we gave to the strangers, which they thankfully received, and returned to their habitation. We next proposed to cross the river to our waggons. The evening, however, being dark, our boat overloaded, and we totally ignorant of our course, we got into the surf, quite in the mouth of the river, and had a very narrow escape. We were about half an hour in great danger; but one of our Hottentots observing the fires made by our companions, we soon got into the right track.

The following day we made an excursion through the adjacent country, but found no great variety of plants, except Geraniums. The next day we again crossed the river, to



GERANIUM SPINOSUM.

Published March 30, 1789, by J. Johnson, in St Paul's Church-yard.

inquire whether there was any possibility of proceeding on our journey to the eastward ; but of this the natives seemed unable to give us any information. We observed that all those people had lost the first joint of their little finger ; the reason they gave for cutting it off was, that it was a cure for a particular sickness to which they were subject when young.

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The last day we intended to remain at this part of the river, we employed in fishing, and were visited by our friends from the opposite shore. I observed they eat, with a very good appetite, some old shoes which some of our Hottentots gave them. Their own shoes are made of a piece of leather which merely defends the soles of their feet from thorns, and is in general fastened to their toes and ankle. As we observed a great number of huts along the shore which were uninhabited, and yet found only eleven persons dwelling in this part of the country, we conjectured that by some accident several of these people had perished. Those that remain are distinguished by the name of the Shore Boshmen. By a very accurate observation we found the mouth of the river to be in latitude twenty-eight degrees, thirty-three minutes ; the longitude differs but little from that of the Cape.

The morning, of the twenty-fifth, we prosecuted our journey to the eastward, keeping along the banks of the river, being informed that there were many Hippopotami, one of which we were quite near ; but we had left our guns in the waggon, which occasioned us much vexation, as we had scarcely any

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provision for our Hottentots. We still continued our course to the eastward, collecting different plants.

In the afternoon we met Jacobus Van Renan, who had been about six miles to the eastward, and had only seen the prints of three Hippopotami, which seemed to be fresh, and he believed they were gone to the mouth of the river. We informed him of that which we had seen, and he fired several shots at the animal, but without being able to give him a mortal wound.

In the evening, Sebastian Van Renan, and Mr. Pinar, returned to the waggon, and acquainted us that there were a number of Lions about twelve miles to the eastward, attracted by a dead Elephant which had been shot by Mr. Pinar during the time he was absent from the waggons.

We continued our excursion to the eastward, through a hilly country, and the most barren I ever saw. The hills were naked and decayed, with hardly a plant to be seen upon them; in the lower parts there were here and there a little grass: from these appearances we judged that it would be in vain to think of proceeding farther. We agreed, therefore, to remain a few days, and if possible, to shoot some game for provision on our way through the dry country we had to pass. Mr. Pinar, however, resolved to direct his course to the eastward, and took with him five Hottentots, each of whom was provided with a gun. While we remained here, I found a plant which the Hottentots use to procure fire by friction. I found

it to be of the class Tetrandria Monoginia. The plant I observed about an hundred miles to the eastward, on the same river which I had visited in the course of the preceding year.

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We sent our Hottentots out in search of game, on the twenty-seventh, while I employed myself in collecting plants; one of them returned who had shot a Hart, which supplied us for three days; and Jacobus Van Renan wounded an Hippopotamus; but it swam to a place on the opposite side, where there was no possibility of approaching it.

On the twenty-eighth of August, we prepared our waggon for our departure; and the twenty-ninth, of the following evening, left the river, intending to travel in the night, which we conceived would be better for our cattle. After travelling about three hours, our dogs attacked a herd of Zebras, which were at a little distance from the waggons; they seemed not in the least shy, and we shot two of them, which detained us about an hour; part of the flesh we took with us, and it proved very good food. On passing the Two Brothers, we observed a fire which we supposed was made by three of our Hottentots who had left us in the morning. We travelled till four in the morning, when we unyoked our bullocks in a dry sandy plain.

During the thirty-first, we continued our journey to the Deepe Kloaf, or Water Val, where we rested; and in the evening, of the following day, proceeded on our route till about

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two in the morning. The next day we arrived at the Great, or Sea Fountain. On our way we killed several Snakes, one in particular, called the Horned Snake; this species measures from twelve to eighteen inches long, and is supposed to be very venomous.

On the third of September we continued our journey through the desert, but were obliged to stop in order to rest our oxen, which were so much fatigued that it was impossible to proceed farther, when we were about twelve miles from the Coufie, or Sand River.

We proceeded on the evening of the fourth, and next morning arrived at the river, where we rested the following day, having excellent grass and water for our oxen.

On the sixth, we prosecuted our journey thence to the Small Nimiqua Land, and stopped that night on the same river, about eight miles to the eastward of Rhinoceros Fountain, which we had before visited. Our provision began to be short; but one of the Hottentots determined, notwithstanding this circumstance, not to be deprived of his meal, contrived during the night to rob the others of their shoes, which he completely devoured.

From this place we continued our journey to Cock Fountain, where we arrived on the eleventh. Here we were visited by several Nimiquas, who brought us milk, for which we were very thankful, and gave them some tobacco and Dacka in

return. Among these Hottentots was our guide Pedro, who had left us a few days before; there were also two captains, one of whom had a cane, dated seventeen hundred and five, and his name engraved on the top of it, Vulcan; and the other had one with the name, Jephthah.

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In the morning I dispatched a Hottentot to Hermannias Engelbright, desiring him to send us a supply of fresh cattle, in order to enable us to ascend a steep hill which lay in our next day's journey.

On our first arrival amongst our hospitable friends, we were quite invigorated, and delighted with the appearance of every thing around us. We had exchanged a country untrodden by human feet, or only inhabited by the most wretched of savages, for the society of friends and generous hosts, and after a journey of six weeks, through dry and sultry deserts, found ourselves in a land adorned with flowers of the most beautiful colours. The contrast was truly exhilarating, though it was not unexpected. Most of the plants in this part of the country were well known to me, such as *Ixias*, *Gladiolus*, *Geraniums*, and a great variety of *Orchises*, which are produced in the marshes. We agreed to remain here a few days, during which I lost my companion, Colonel Gordon, who intended to direct his course to the eastward in search of a nation, called *Briquas*, of the *Caffre* tribe. My intention was to proceed to the northward, to cross the Orange River, and to visit the Great Nimiqua Land. During my stay at this place, I made

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
several excursions along the mountains, where I added considerably to my collection.

We prevailed upon our friend, Hermannias Engelbright, to accompany us in our intended expedition ; and he took with him three good horses. We then directed our course north, over a rugged path, involved in many turnings between the branches of the Camis Berg ; and in the evening of the twenty-second, came to a Hottentot village, which consisted of eleven huts, where we stayed all night.

The next day we continued our journey to the house of one Vander Hever, where we remained till the following evening, and then proceeded on our journey till midnight, when we reached the Copper Mountain. The water at this place was brackish.

In the afternoon of the twenty-fifth, we proceeded to the Small Copper Bergs Fountain, where we had tolerably good water. Here I made an excursion along the hills, which have all a rugged appearance, and most of them contain copper ore.

We continued our journey to the Small Brack Fountain, where we saw the fresh print of Lions, and proceeded to the Great Brack Fountain. Here we met several Hottentots who had been at the Great Nimiqua Land, exchanging cattle for beads and tobacco. They told us that the river was passable, but seemed rather to swell when they left it, which was the

day before. We stayed here a couple of days, and ranged the adjacent part of the country, where I found several plants that I had never before observed. ^{1779.}
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We next directed our course north by east, through a sandy plain; and after travelling about four miles, found a large rock of a conical figure, where was a small fountain of fresh water. There were several Hottentots who came from the Orange River. One of them was a good marksman, and on that account we took him with us. After travelling till next day, we were obliged to stop to rest our cattle at about the distance of six miles from the river.

On the first of October I left the waggon, in company with Mr. Van Renan and Engelbright, and directed my course to the river. On our first arrival we were all in great hopes that it was passable, but were soon convinced of the contrary. We then resolved to proceed to the eastward, and after some days arrived at a Hottentot village, situate by a large wood on the banks of the river. Here we were informed that Colonel Gordon was about one day's journey to the eastward, and that he intended to leave his boat at that place. I sent one of the Hottentots to beg him to allow us to make use of it, in order to transport ourselves over the river, which was otherwise impassable; but before he returned the river began to decrease with great rapidity.

On the seventh I made an excursion through the woods. I found them inhabited by variety of Birds and Monkeys, which

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are exceedingly shy. They live on the gum of the *Mimosa Nilitico*. There are several paths made by Elephants and Hippopotami. The country is every where equally barren; the soil is a loose sandy clay. Along the banks of the river was good grass. Here the river divides itself into three branches, which are each about a mile broad.

We saw several fires to the eastward; and on the fourteenth we went over the river. The stream was so rapid that we had much difficulty in crossing it. We had all our necessaries packed upon oxen, which I hired from the Hottentots for that purpose; and this night encamped under a large Ebony tree, about eight miles to the northward of the river.

We next directed our course east north-east, through a hilly country; and at noon passed the Lions River, the banks of which are in general inhabited by those animals. The country is extremely barren, and covered with small sharp stones, which proved very injurious to our horses' hoofs. In the evening we arrived at a small brackish fountain, where we stayed all night, and the next day our way lay through a narrow path between two high mountains. At noon we saw several of the natives, who were in search of wild honey. I found here the most beautiful plant I ever saw of the *Pentandria Monogynia* class. It grows to six feet high, and is full of long spines from the ground to the tops, and forms a large crown of crisped leaves, and reddish tubular flowers, tinged with yellow and green. In the afternoon we came to a fountain of brackish water, where we stayed all night, being informed by the natives that there



PENTANDRA MONOGYNIA.

From the Great Antigua Land.



CAMELOPARDALIS.

were numbers of the *Camelopardalis* in this neighbourhood, one of which we were very desirous of shooting, as it is a beast so little known to Europeans, that even its existence has been doubted.

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Towards the evening I made an excursion to a hill which was at a little distance from us. When I gained the summit I saw several of the natives near a wood of *Mimosa*, to whom I immediately endeavoured to approach. On my arrival I found they were eating the gum of the trees, on which indeed a great part of these people subsist. They were dressed exactly as the inhabitants of the Small Nimiqua Land; some in the skins of Jackals, and others in the skins of Marmottes, sewed together; these animals, being very numerous in this part of the country. Their habitation was about three miles from the fountain, which I visited in the evening; it consisted of six huts. Their sheep are very different from those near the Cape; these having much longer tails, and being covered with hair instead of wool, which at a distance gives them more the appearance of dogs than of sheep.

On the seventeenth we directed our course north-east, to a small fountain of water; and took with us some of the natives who knew the country. On our arrival we were obliged to dig pits in the sand before we could come at the water. This day we made an excursion through the country, which is level and high. Here we had an extensive view to the southward of the Orange River; and to the northward of a large plain, bounded at about the distance of four days journey, by a range

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October.

of mountains in a direction from east to west. As I before observed, there is no descent on the inland side of these mountains, equal to the ascent which we encounter as we proceed from the sea; in general, a slight descent terminates an extensive plain till we come to the next; and thus the farther the traveller proceeds inland, the higher he finds the situation. These mountains we were informed was part of the Brenas, or Brequas. In this plain grows a species of Mimosa peculiar to this part of the country; and also a beautiful shrub, called the Wild Apricot; of this I could procure no perfect specimen, the fruit being ripe at this time. The country is here inhabited by Zebras, Rhinoceroses, Camelopardalises, Koedoes, &c.

We rested our horses during the next day, intending afterwards to direct our course west north-west towards a hot bath. In our way we saw six Camelopardalises, which we pursued; one of them, my companion, Mr. Van Renan, shot; it proved to be a male; the skin and skeleton of which I preserved; the dimensions were,

Feet. Inches.

The height of his natural position, from the hoof			
to the top of the horns,	-	-	14 9
Ditto from the hoof to the shoulder,	-	-	9 7½
Ditto from the hind hoof to the rump,	-	-	8 1½
Length of the fore legs,	-	-	5 7
Ditto of the hind legs,	-	-	5 6½
Ditto of the mane from the head to the shoulders,	5	2½	
Ditto of the body from the shoulder to the rump,	5	9	




MIMOSA.

The Species unknown.



LOXIA,
Novæ Species.

				Feet. Inches.	1779. October.
Circumference of the neck below,	-	-	-	5 0	
Ditto in the middle,	-	-	-	2 10	
Ditto at the head,	-	-	-	2 1	
Length of the neck,	-	-	-	5 3	
Ditto of the tail without the hair,	-	-	-	2 9½	
Ditto with the hair,	-	-	-	4 10½	
Breadth of the hind hoof,	-	-	-	0 5½	
Length of ditto,	-	-	-	0 8¼	
Ditto of the fore hoof,	-	-	-	0 8¼	
Breadth of ditto,	-	-	-	0 5½	
Length of the horns,	-	-	-	1 0½	
Distance between ditto,	-	-	-	0 3	

Length of the hair of the mane from three to four inches, and of a reddish colour*. These animals chiefly subsist upon the Mimosa, and wild Apricots. Their colour is in general reddish, or dark brown and white, and some of them black and white; they are cloven footed; have four teats; their tail resembles that of a bullock; but the hair of the tail is much stronger, and in general black; they have eight fore teeth below, but none above, and six grinders, or double teeth, on each side above and below; the tongue is rather pointed and rough; they have no footlock hoofs; they are not swift, but can continue a long chase before they stop; which may be the reason that few of them are shot. The ground is so sharp that a horse is in general lame before he can get within shot.

* The skin is now stuffed, and in the possession of John Hunter, Esq. Leicester Square.

1779.
October.

of them, which was the case with our horses, otherwise I should have preserved two perfect specimens of a male and female. It is difficult to distinguish them at any distance, from the length of their body, which, together with the length of their neck, gives them the appearance of a decayed tree. During our stay at this place my companions wounded two Rhinoceroses.

The following day I observed thunder clouds to the eastward; and being apprehensive of the river becoming impassable, we agreed to return the same way to our waggons, being informed by the natives, that after the appearance of such clouds to the eastward, they had seen the river impassable in two days, and had frequently known it to continue so till the month of May. The twenty-first at night we crossed the river with safety, and our Hottentots and oxen arrived on the twenty-second.

We were here visited by some of the Bush Hottentots, who had come from the eastward. Here also we parted from our friend and companion, Hermannus Engelbright, who went on before us.

After remaining a few days on the banks of the river, we prepared our waggon, with an intention of proceeding on our journey; but a storm came on from the south-west, which obliged us to stay all night. This tempest began at noon and continued till midnight, during which time it blew down several large trees; and stones of a large size were hurled by

the force of the wind up very considerable precipices. When the storm abated, we continued our journey to the Small Nimiqua Land, where we arrived after a journey of five days, at the house of our companion, Engelbright, who informed us, that one of his horses was devoured by a Lion, the second day after he parted from us. We remained here a few days in order to refresh ourselves, and to rest our cattle.

1779.
November.

On the fourth of November, we took leave of our friend, and directed our course towards the Bokke Veld, making short stays, in search of plants.

Mr. Van Renan and I left the waggon on the tenth, and in the evening arrived at the house of Mrs. Ryck. The next day we sent fresh oxen to our waggon, which arrived on the eleventh, in the evening. After a stay of a few days in this place, we continued our journey to the north-east, towards the Boshmens Land. In the evening we arrived at the house of Jacobus Van Renan, where were about thirty of the Hottentots, who had made peace with the Dutch, were retained in their service, and proved more faithful servants than those who had been brought up in subjection to the Dutch.

In the morning we a little altered our direction, and travelled to the northward, and at night arrived at a brackish fountain, situate on a river, called by the Hottentots, Camdinie Rivier, where we remained all night on being informed that there were numbers of Antelopes, called Spring Bucks, in this neighbourhood, which we intended to have the amusement of

1779.
November.

shooting at the next day. The soil of this country is of a sandy loam, and the water is every where bad. The climate and produce of the country are much the same as in the vicinity of the Orange River.

On the following morning we left the waggon, and directed our course north, and after ascending a high hill, we entered a large plain to the northward. It was covered with the *Mezembrianthemum Tuburonim*. Here we prepared to enjoy the entertainment which had induced our stay on the banks of the Camdinie Rivier. The Antelopes divided themselves into large flocks of at least twenty or thirty thousand in each flock. We pursued them from eight in the morning till noon, and killed and wounded several; and the Hottentots who accompanied us, shot several with their poisoned arrows, in the use of which they are expert. In the afternoon we continued our journey to a place, called the Kibiskow, where was a Hottentot's Kraal. We were here visited by four captains, or chiefs, who amused us during the whole night.

I made an excursion, on the twenty-first, through part of the country in search of plants, but discovered few in flower. I found a species of Flint here, which is used by the Hottentots in making their harpoons, and esteemed by them as preferable to iron for this purpose.

From this place we returned to the Bokke Veld, and arrived there after a journey of four days. We thence directed our course towards the Windhoek, where we arrived in a few

days more. In our way we had heavy showers of rain, accompanied with thunder and lightning; and I was necessarily detained at the Windhock by the inclemency of the weather. I did not, however, remain inactive in this situation, but added considerably to my collection of plants, as I was fortunate enough to find several beautiful evergreens in flower. There is one of this tribe in particular which grows to the height of about twenty feet, the fruit of which the peasants use as an ingredient for poisoning the Hyenas. The process in preparing this pernicious vegetable is very simple. They first dry the fruit, and then grind it into a powder, which they rub over a piece of flesh, and throw it into places which are infested by these fierce animals. Upon eating the flesh, the Hyenas are so immediately poisoned as generally to be found at a very little distance from the place where it was thrown. This fruit is conveyed through the whole country for this purpose.

1779.
November.

The land in this part of the country is fruitful, and produces Corn and excellent Fruit; but the south-east winds, which blow from the mountains in the manner they do at the Cape, frequently proves as pernicious to the rising grain as they do at that place.

On the sixth of December I parted with my hospitable friend, Niue Houds, and was convoyed by his two sons through the Elephants River, which I expected to find impassable. The water was so deep that it came up to our saddles. The same day we arrived at the Heer Lodgement.

1779.
December.

I then left the waggon and directed my course through a sandy plain, to the house of Mrs. Low, situate in the Long Valley.

On the eighth my waggon arrived, and the following day I was supplied with a team of fresh oxen, and directed my course to the Berg Valley, where I stayed two days, making excursions through part of the country, in which I collected several plants. When we arrived at the Croise, we remained there all night, and on the succeeding day proceeded on our journey along the Picquet Berg. At night we arrived at the house of Abert Honna Cambt, where I continued two days, and made an excursion to the mountain.

We then proceeded on our journey, and arrived at Rie Beck's Castiel, at the house of Mr. Droyer, where I visited the Roode Sand, or Land Van Waveren, which is situate to the eastward of Rie Beck's Castiel. This is a pleasant and fruitful country, bounded by the large chain of mountains which are terminated on the east by Hottniqua Land, and on the west by the chain of mountains which begin at Cape False, they join to the northward, where the mountain is called the Winter Hocks Berg. This mountain is extremely high; and during a considerable part of the year its summit is covered with snow. To the eastward is a pleasant country, called the Goudinnie, where there is a hot bath. The Breed Rivier has its source in this place, and to the eastward is joined by the Hexen River, or Witches River. Along the west side of the chain of mountains, which begins at Cape False, is situate the Parel and Draken Styne, a well watered

and fruitful country, which extends to the southward, and joins Stillen Bosch. The only produce of this country is Wine. ^{1779.}
December.

In the course of this journey I have had frequent occasion to mention the Mimosas, which abound particularly in the Great Nimiqua Land; and I cannot close my Journal, without once more calling the reader's attention to a vegetable production, which must strike every traveller with astonishment; not only from its uncommon size, but from the different uses for which Nature seems to have intended it.* It produces quantities of Gum, which is considered by the natives as a peculiarly delicate species of food; the leaves and lower points of the branches seem to constitute the principal aliment of the *Camelopardalis*; and, from the extent of its boughs, and smoothness of the trunk, it affords a sufficient defence to a species of gregarious bird† against the tribe of serpents, and other reptiles, which would otherwise destroy its eggs.

The method in which these birds usually fabricate their nests is highly curious. In that of which I have given a representation in the annexed plate, there could be no less a number than from eight hundred to a thousand residing under the same roof. I call it a roof, because it perfectly resembles that of a thatched house, and the ridge forms an angle so acute and so smooth, projecting over the entrance of the nest below, that it is impossible for any reptile to approach them.

* See the plate.

† See the *Loxia* plate.

1779.
December.

Their industry seems almost equal to that of the bee; throughout the day they appear to be busily employed in carrying a fine species of grafs, which is the principal material they employ for the purpose of erecting this extraordinary work, as well as for additions and repairs. Though my short stay in the country was not sufficient to satisfy me by ocular proof, that they added to their nest as they annually increased in numbers, still from the many trees which I have seen born down with the weight, and others which I have observed with their boughs completely covered over, it would appear that this really was the case; when the tree, which is the support of this aerial city, is obliged to give way to the increase of weight, it is obvious that they are no longer protected, and are under the necessity of rebuilding in other trees.

One of these deserted nests I had the curiosity to break down, so as to inform myself of the internal structure of it, and found it equally ingenious with that of the external. There are many entrances, each of which forms a regular street, with nests on both sides, at about two inches distance from each other.

The grafs with which they build is called, the Boshman's grafs; and I believe the seed of it to be their principal food; though on examining their nests I found the wings and legs of different insects. From every appearance the nest, which I dissected, had been inhabited for many years; and some parts of it were much more complete than others: this, therefore, I

conceive nearly to amount to a proof that the animals added to it at different times, as they found necessary, from the increase of the family, or rather I should say, the nation or community.

^{1779.}
December.

Upon leaving Rie Beck's Castiel, I directed my course through Swart Land, towards the Groena Kloaf, where I arrived the following day, and found the farmers engaged in gathering in their harvest.

In the evening of the twenty-first of December, I arrived at the Cape, after a journey of six months and five days.

OBSERVATIONS

ON

THE THERMOMETER, WINDS, AND WEATHER;

KEPT ON

THE SECOND JOURNEY,

AT THE

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE,

FROM THE TWENTY-SECOND OF MAY TO THE EIGHTEENTH OF NOVEMBER 1778.

M A Y.

Month.	Days.	Hours	Thermom. in the shade.	Therm. in the sun.	Winds.	Remarks on the weather.
May	22	8	57	59	N. W.	Cloudy, with flying showers.
		12	61	61		Cloudy.
		4	60	61	Strong N. W.	Heavy showers of rain.
		8	59		Ditto.	Cloudy.
	23	8	60	60	N. W.	Cloudy, with flying showers.
		12	62	64	Ditto.	Clear.
		4	61	63	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	59		Ditto.	Cloudy, with heavy showers.
	24	8	61	62	Strong N. W.	Cloudy.
		12	64	67	Ditto.	Clear.
		4	63	64		Heavy rain.
		8	60			Cloudy, with small showers.

Month.	Days.	Hours	Thermom. in the shade.	Therm. in the sun.	Winds.	Remarks on the weather.
May	25	8	60	61	Strong N. W.	Cloudy, with flying showers.
		12	61	62	Ditto.	Heavy rain.
		4	60	61	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	59			Ditto.
	26	8	60	60	Strong N. W.	Cloudy.
		12	62	61	Ditto.	Heavy clouds to the N. W.
		4	60	61	Ditto.	Clear.
		8	59		Calm.	Cloudy.
	27	8	61	61	N. W.	Cloudy.
		12	62	64	Small breeze at S. E.	Clear.
		4	61	62	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	59 $\frac{1}{2}$		Ditto.	Fine.
	28	8	57	57	North.	Cloudy.
		12	61	62	N. W.	Ditto.
		4	59	64	Ditto.	Heavy rain, with squalls; at six (p. m.) therm. 55.
		8	54		Strong N. W.	Rain and hail.
	29	8	54	56	S. W.	Cloudy.
		12	58	59	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	50	55		Ditto, with rain; on the summit of the hills snow.
		8	54		N. W.	Heavy rain; lightning in S. E.
	30	8	45	47	N. W.	Cloudy; heavy morning dew.
		12	50	57	Ditto.	Cloudy; showers of small rain.
		4	50	55	Ditto.	Ditto with rain; the hills covered with snow.
		8	51		Ditto.	Lightning in S. E.
	31	8	50	50	N. W.	Cloudy.
		12	51	52	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	49	51	Ditto.	Small rain.
		8	49		Ditto.	Flying showers.

JUNE.

Month.	Days.	Hours.	Thermom. in the shade.	Therm. in the sun.	Winds.	Remarks on the weather.
June	1	8	50	50	N. W.	Cloudy.
		12	51	54	Ditto.	Heavy rain.
		4	49	50	Strong N. W.	Ditto.
		8	47		N. W.	Cloudy.
	2	8	55	55 $\frac{1}{4}$	N. W.	Cloudy.
		12	60	67	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	59	64	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	59		Ditto.	Rain.
	3	8	50	52	N. W.	Heavy rain.
		12	56	57	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	54	56	Ditto.	Cloudy.
		8	55		S. E.	Clear.
	4	8	53	53	N. W.	Rain.
		12	54	57	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	52	56	Ditto.	Cloudy, with showery small rain.
		8	51		Ditto.	Ditto.
	5	8	54	55	S. E.	Clear.
		12	62	67	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	61	65	North.	Ditto.
		8	55		N. W.	Fine.
	6	8	53	53	N. W.	Clear.
		12	60	64	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	55	60	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	52		Ditto.	Ditto.
	7	8	55	54, exposed 67	N. W.	In the morning, dew.
		12	60	67	Ditto.	Clear.
		4	57	64	Ditto.	Cloudy.
		8	52			Ditto.
	8	8	50	57	N. W.	Cloudy.
		12	56	59	Ditto.	Clear.
		4	56	58	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	52		Ditto.	Fine.
	9	8	54	56	N. W.	Clear.
		12	60	65	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	59	61	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	50		Ditto.	Strong dew.

Month	Days.	Hours	Thermom. in the shade.	Therm. in the sun.	Winds.	Remarks on the weather.
June	10	8	50	51	N. W.	The ground wet with dew.
		12	61	68	S. E.	Fine and clear.
		4	58	61	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	51		Ditto.	Ditto, with dew.
	11	8	50	51	S. E.	Clear; in the morning, dew.
		12	59	63	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	57	59	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	54		Ditto.	Fine.
	12	8	57	51	N. W.	Cloudy.
		12	54	55	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	53	55	Ditto.	Clear.
		8	50		Ditto.	Ditto.
	13	8	51	58	S. E.	Clear.
		12	54	59	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	52	56	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	52		Ditto.	Clouds to the S. W.
	14	8	48	49	S. E.	Cloudy, with small rain.
		12	51	60	Ditto.	Clear.
		4	52	57	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	50		Ditto.	Cloudy.
	15	8	51	52	Strong N. W.	Cloudy.
		12	56	61	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	55	60	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	51		Ditto.	The hills covered with snow.
	16	8	50	50	Strong N. W.	Cloudy.
		12	52	53	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	50	51	Ditto North.	Clear.
		8	48		North.	Ditto.
	17	8	51	51	S. E.	Clear; in the morning, dew.
		12	54	57	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	53	56	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	52		Ditto.	Fine and clear.
	18	8	52	54	South.	Cloudy.
		12	60	61	Ditto.	Clear.
		4	55	58	Ditto.	Cloudy.
		8	53		S. E.	Ditto, with lightning in the East.
	19	8	47	48	S. E.	Cloudy.
		12	50	57	Ditto.	Rain.
		4	49	51	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	43		South.	Clear.

Month.	Days.	Hours	Thermom. in the shade.	Therm. in the sun.	Winds.	Remarks on the weather.
June	20	8	50	50	N. W.	Clear.
		12	56	61	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	54	60	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	51		Ditto.	Ditto.
	21	8	47	50	Strong N. W.	Cloudy.
		12	51	54	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	50	51	Ditto.	Small rain.
		8	48		Ditto.	Cloudy.
	22	8	47	48	N. W.	Strong dew.
		12	52	60	North.	Fine.
		4	50	58	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	49		N. W.	Ditto.
	23	8	50	51	N. W.	Dew.
		12	51	51	Ditto.	Cloudy.
		4	49	50	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	45		Ditto.	Cloudy with small rain.
	24	8	45	46	N. W.	Strong dew.
		12	56	60	Ditto.	Fine.
		4	54	60	Ditto.	Clouds to the N. and W.
		8	50		Ditto.	Ditto.
	25	8	44	44	N. W.	The ground white with frost.
		12	50	60	Ditto.	Cloudy.
		4	50	56	Ditto.	Clear.
		8	45		Ditto.	Ditto.
	26	8	43	45	Strong N. W.	Cloudy.
		12	50	55	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	49	49	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	46		Ditto.	Ditto.
	27	8	43	44	N. W.	Strong frost.
		12	50	51	Ditto.	Squally and cloudy.
		4	45	46	Ditto.	Cloudy.
		8	43		Ditto.	Ditto.
	28	8	43	42, exposed	Strong N. W.	Heavy rain and hail.
		12	47	50	Ditto.	Rain.
		4	44	45	Ditto.	Several showers of hail and rain.
		8	42		Ditto.	Cloudy.
	29	8	43	44	N. W.	Cloudy.
		12	45	48	Strong N. W.	Ditto.
		4	44	46	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	43		Ditto.	Ditto.

Month.	Days.	Hours	Thermom. in the shade.	Therm. in the sun.	Winds.	Remarks on the weather.
June	30	8	46	46	N. W.	Clear.
		12	51	60	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	45	50	Ditto.	Cloudy.
		8	43		Ditto.	Clear.

JULY.

Month.	Days.	Hours	Thermom. in the shade.	Therm. in the sun.	Winds.	Remarks on the weather.
July	1	8	45	47	N. W.	Clear.
		12	49	64	Ditto.	Cloudy.
		4	47	50	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	46		Ditto.	Ditto.
	2	8	50	57	North.	Clear, with heavy dew.
		12	54	60	Ditto.	Cloudy.
		4	51	56	Ditto.	Small rain.
		8	50		Strong ditto.	Cloudy.
	3	8	50	53	N. W.	Clear.
		12	57	61	Ditto.	Fine.
		4	54	60	South.	Clouds towards the southward.
		8	51		S. W.	Heavy rain.
	4	8	43	44	Calm.	Hard frost.
		12	50	57	Small breeze N.W.	Clear.
		4	50	54	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	47		Ditto.	Ditto.
	5	8	43	44	North.	Frost.
		12	50	54	Ditto.	Cloudy.
		4	47	51	Ditto.	Clear.
		8	45	50	Ditto.	Ditto.
	6	8	47	48	N. W.	Frost.
		12	51	53	Ditto.	Cloudy.
		4	49	49	Ditto.	Heavy rain.
		8	46		Ditto.	Ditto.
	7	8	50	50	Strong N. W.	Cloudy.
		12	55	57	Calm.	Ditto.
		4	50	51	Ditto.	Heavy rain.
		8	47		Ditto.	Ditto.
	8	8	49	49	Strong N. W.	Cloudy.
		12	50	51	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	49	49	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	45		Ditto.	Ditto.
	9	8	48	49	West.	Clear.
		12	50	56	N. W.	Ditto.
		4	47	54	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	45		Ditto.	Ditto.

Month	Days	Hours	Thermom. in the shade.	Therm. in the sun.	Winds.	Remarks on the weather.
July	10	8	45	46	N. W.	The ground white with frost.
		12	60	64	Ditto.	Fine.
		4	54	60	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	47		Ditto.	Ditto.
	11	8	40	41	N. W.	Hard frost.
		12	61	66	Ditto.	Clear.
		4	55	61	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	50		Ditto.	Frost.
	12	8	55	60	N. W.	Fine.
		12	63	67	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	59	63	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	55		Ditto.	Ditto.
	13	8	45	47	North.	Fine.
		12	59	61	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	56	60	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	47		Ditto.	Clouds towards N.W. heavy rain till midnight.
	14	8	46	50	N. W.	Clear.
		12	54	63	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	54	62	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	45		Ditto.	Ditto.
	15	8	43	42	North.	Cloudy.
		12	56	61	Ditto.	Clear.
		4	54	60	N. W.	Ditto.
		8	50		Ditto.	Ditto.
	16	8	45	47	N. W.	Clear.
		12	57	60	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	53	56	Ditto.	Cloudy.
		8	46		Ditto.	Cloudy to the N. W.
	17	8	50	51	North.	Fine.
		12	61	65	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	57	59	Ditto.	Cloudy.
		8	51		Ditto.	Fine.
	18	8	45	47	Strong N. W.	Cloudy.
		12	51	58	Ditto.	Clear.
		4	50	51	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	47		Ditto.	Cloudy.
	19	8	44	45	N. W.	Cloudy.
		12	56	60	Ditto.	Clear.
		4	51	59	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	49		Ditto.	Cloudy.

Month.	Days.	Hours.	Thermom. in the shade.	Therm. in the sun.	Winds.	Remarks on the weather.
July	20	8	39	47	S. E.	Hard frost.
		12	50	60	N. W.	Clear.
		4	49	57	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	47		Ditto.	Ditto.
	21	8	41	45	S. E.	Clear.
		12	57	61	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	55	60	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	50		North.	Ditto.
	22	8	46	47	North.	Hazy.
		12	57	60	N. W.	Clear.
		4	51	58	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	49		Ditto.	Clouds to the N. W.
	23	8	50	57	N. W.	Clear.
		12	60	67	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	52	60	Ditto.	Clouds in the N. W.
		8	51		Ditto.	Ditto.
	24	8	49	50	N. W.	Cloudy.
		12	58	64	Ditto.	Clear.
		4	55	60	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	50		Ditto.	Cloudy.
	25	8	49	52	N. W.	Cloudy.
		12	61	67	Ditto.	Clear.
		4	60	65	North.	Ditto.
		8	47		Ditto.	Thunder clouds in the N. W.
	26	8	45	50	N. W.	Clear.
		12	55	61	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	52	57	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	47		S. E.	Thunder, lightning, & hard rain.
	27	8	45	48	S. E.	Cloudy.
		12	61	67	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	56	61	Ditto.	Clear.
		8	49		North.	Ditto.
	28	8	48	49	Eaft.	Clear.
		12	59	61	N. W.	Hazy.
		4	55	60	Ditto.	Cloudy.
		8	45		Ditto.	Ditto.
	29	8	46	47	N. W.	Hazy.
		12	63	67	Ditto.	Clear.
		4	62	63	Ditto.	Cloudy.
		8	50		Ditto.	Ditto.

Month.	Days.	Hours.	Thermom. in the shade.	Therm. in the sun.	Winds.	Remarks on the weather.
July	30	8	49	50	N. W.	Cloudy.
		12	50	60	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	47	54	Ditto.	Heavy rain.
		8	43		Ditto.	Ditto.
	31	8	40	40	North.	Squally; showers of hail and rain.
		12	51	50, exposed	N. E.	Squally.
		4	50	50	Ditto.	Hail.
		8	42		Ditto.	

AUGUST.

Month.	Days.	Hours.	Thermom. in the shade.	Therm. in the sun.	Winds.	Remarks on the weather.
Aug.	1	8	39	40	S. E.	Clear; ice on the water quarter of an inch thick.
		12	45	52	Ditto.	Clear.
		4	43	44	Strong S. E.	Ditto.
		8	35		Ditto.	Ditto.
	2	8	30	40	S. E.	Clear, with frost.
		12	39	40	Strong S. E.	Cloudy.
		4	37	37	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	37		Ditto.	Clear.
	3	8	38	40	East.	Clear, with frost.
		12	51	60	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	50	60	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	43		Ditto.	Ditto.
	4	8	40	44	Calm.	Hard frost.
		12	59	62	N. W.	Clear.
		4	56	60	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	45		Ditto.	White frost.
	5	8	39	41	N. W.	Frost.
		12	57	62	Ditto.	Clear.
		4	55	58	Ditto.	Cloudy.
		8	43		Ditto.	Clear.
	6	8	45	45	N. W.	Cloudy.
		12	57	63	Ditto.	Clear.
		4	50	51	Ditto.	Cloudy.
		8	47		Ditto.	Ditto.
	7	8	30	30	N. W.	Rain.
		12	46	46	Ditto.	Cloudy, with small rain.
		4	42	42	Ditto.	Cloudy.
		8	39		Ditto.	Clear.
	8	8	38	39	Calm.	White frost.
		12	60	68	N. W.	Fine.
		4	59	63	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	50		Ditto.	Ditto.
	9	8	38	43	Calm.	Clear, with frost.
		12	56	63	S. E.	Clear.
		4	48	55	Ditto.	Cloudy.
		8	50		Ditto.	Ditto.

Month.	Days.	Hours	Thermom. in the shade.	Therm. in the sun.	Winds.	Remarks on the weather.
Aug.	10	8	39	42	Calm.	Frost.
		12	67	70	S. E.	Clear.
		4	66	69	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	51		Ditto.	Ditto.
	11	8	49	55	S. E.	Clear.
		12	65	70	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	60	68	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	51		Ditto.	Ditto.
	12	8	49	52	S. E.	Fine.
		12	63	71	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	62	69	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	54		Ditto.	Ditto.
	13	8	44	44	N. W.	Cloudy, with finall rain.
		12	50	51	Ditto.	Heavy rain.
		4	50	50	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	43		Ditto.	Cloudy and fair.
	14	8	39	39	North.	Clouds in the N. W.
		12	57	61	N. W.	Clear.
		4	56	59	Ditto.	Cloudy.
		8	48		S. E.	Hazy.
	15	8	48	49	S. E.	Cloudy.
		12	50	52	Strong ditto.	Ditto.
		4	50	52	Calm.	Ditto.
		8	46		Ditto.	Clear.
	16	8	40	50	S. E.	Fine.
		12	57	64	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	49	60	Strong ditto.	Ditto.
		8	43		Ditto.	Frost.
	17	8	43	50	S. E.	Clear.
		12	54	60	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	50	57	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	42		Ditto.	Ditto.
	18	8	41	50	Strong S. E.	Clear.
		12	60	68	Calm.	Ditto.
		4	58	60	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	47		North.	Ditto.
	19	8	40	42	N. W.	Hazy.
		12	63	70	Ditto.	Clear.
		4	62	65	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	50		Ditto.	Ditto.

Month.	Days.	Hours.	Thermom. in the shade.	Therm. in the sun.	Winds.	Remarks on the weather.
Aug.	20	8	43	43	Calm.	Hazy.
		12	67	72	Ditto.	Clear.
		4	63	70	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	53		S. E.	Ditto.
	21	8	39	40	S. E.	Hazy.
		12	61	65	Ditto.	Clouds to the N. W.
		4	59	60	North.	Cloudy.
		8	48		N. W.	Rain.
	22	8	40	40	N. W.	Cloudy, with heavy showers.
		12	50	50		Cloudy.
		4	50	50	Ditto.	Rain.
		8	43		East.	Clear.
	23	8	43	50	S. E.	Clear.
		12	58	63	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	55	61	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	50		Ditto.	Ditto.
	24	8	42	50	S. E.	Clear, with dew.
		12	54	64	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	53	60	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	41		Ditto.	Ditto.
	25	8	45	45	S. E.	Cloudy.
		12	58	59	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	56	59	N. W.	Clear.
		8	51		Ditto.	Clouds in the N. W.
	26	8	43	47	S. E.	Clear.
		12	54	60	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	53	57	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	41		Ditto.	Cloudy.
	27	8	40	41	S. E.	Cloudy.
		12	53	54	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	52	54	Ditto.	Clear.
		8	49		Ditto.	Cloudy.
	28	8	45	45	South.	Cloudy.
		12	57	61	S. E.	Clear.
		4	55	59	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	49		Ditto.	Ditto.
	29	8	45	46	S. E.	Cloudy.
		12	60	70	Ditto.	Clear.
		4	57	68	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	50		East.	Ditto.

Month.	Days.	Hours	Thermom. in the shade.	Therm. in the sun.	Winds.	Remarks on the weather.
Aug.	30	8	43	43	S. E.	Hazy.
		12	57	54, exposed	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	53	56	Ditto.	Clear.
		8	48		Ditto.	Ditto.
	31	8	47	50	S. E.	Clear.
		12	60	70	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	59	63	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	54		Ditto.	Ditto.

SEPTEMBER.

Month.	Days.	Hours.	Thermom. in the shade.	Therm. in the sun.	Winds.	Remarks on the weather.
Sept.	1	8	50	58	S. E.	Clear.
		12	65	71	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	63	65	Ditto.	Hazy.
		8	53		Ditto.	Clear.
	2	8	52	60	Strong Easterly.	Clear.
		12	60	72	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	60	69	Ditto.	Clouds towards the East.
		8	55		Ditto.	Cloudy.
	3	8	51	52	Strong N. W.	Clear.
		12	52	60	Ditto.	Cloudy.
		4	51	60	Ditto.	Clear.
		8	50		Ditto.	Ditto.
	4	8	48	48	N. E.	Misty.
		12	52	51, exposed	Ditto.	Cloudy.
		4	51	53	Ditto.	Clear.
		8	50			Ditto.
	5	8	51	60	West.	Clear.
		12	70	81	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	68	74	Ditto.	Hazy.
		8	52		Ditto.	Ditto.
	6	8	50	51	N. W.	Hazy.
		12	68	75	Ditto.	Clear.
		4	65	73	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	58		Ditto.	Ditto.
	7	8	56	64	North.	Clear.
		12	70	83	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	68	79	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	60		Ditto.	Ditto.
	8	8	60	71	Calm.	Clear.
		12	85	97	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	87	89	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	70		S. E.	Clouds in the East.
	9	8	69	80	Calm.	Clear.
		12	91	100	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	90	98		
		8	89		Small breezes S. E.	Ditto. *

* Here, on the banks of the Orange River, which is surrounded by naked mountains, and the wind generally S. E. blowing over a dry sandy plain, which is about 800 miles from the Cape of Good Hope, the thermometer, in the sun, was often at 120 degrees.

Month.	Days.	Hours	Thermom. in the shade.	Therm. in the sun.	Winds.	Remarks on the weather.
Sept.	10	8	70	80	Calm.	Clear.
		12	93	108	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	84	100	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	76		Ditto.	Ditto.
	11	8	70	80	S. E.	Clear.
		12	93	106	Calm.	Ditto.
		4	89	100	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	73		Small breeze S. E.	Ditto.
	12	8	69	91	Calm.	Clear.
		12	90	102	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	90	101	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	80		Ditto.	
	13	8	71	84	Calm.	Clear.
		12	92	108	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	89	100	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	70		Strong West.	Cloudy.
	14	8	61	70	Calm.	Cloudy.
		12	80	97	Ditto.	Clear.
		4	76	90	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	60		Ditto.	Ditto.
	15	8	59	61	N. W.	Cloudy.
		12	70	89	Calm.	Clear.
		4	70	87	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	64		Small breeze at W.	Clear.
	16	8	54	59	West.	Cloudy.
		12	69	71	Calm.	Clear.
		4	65	71	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	54		West.	Ditto.
	17	8	52	53	N. W.	Cloudy.
		12	70	83	Calm.	Clear.
		4	65	73	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	60		West.	Cloudy.
	18	8	53	64	Calm.	Clear.
		12	69	81	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	65	76	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	57		N. W.	Ditto.
	19	8	58	64	Small breeze at W.	Clear.
		12	70	88	Calm.	Ditto.
		4	70	82	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	61		N. W.	Ditto.

Month.	Days.	Hours	Thermom. in the shade.	Therm. in the sun.	Winds.	Rem. rks on the weather.
Sept.	20	8	57	69	Calm.	Clear.
		12	81	98	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	76	82	Small breeze N.W.	Ditto.
		8	60		Ditto.	Ditto.
	21	8	60	80	Calm.	Clear.
		12	85	100	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	81	97	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	70		Ditto.	Ditto.
	22	8	67	79	Calm.	Clear.
		12	91	103	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	90	100	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	70		Ditto.	Ditto.
	23	8	70	80	Calm.	Clear.
		12	95	112	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	91	107	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	71		West.	Ditto.
	24	8	77	101	Calm.	Clear.
		12	95	116	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	87	109	Small breeze N.W.	Ditto.
		8	69		Ditto.	Ditto.
	25	8	69	76	Calm.	Clear.
		12	93	109	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	89	100	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	63		Ditto.	Ditto.
	26	8	60	71	North.	Clouds in the N. W.
		12	89	100	Calm.	Clear.
		4	87	98	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	59		Ditto.	Ditto.
	27	8	69	79	Calm.	Clear.
		12	93	109	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	81	100	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	63		Ditto.	Ditto.
	28	8	65	79	Calm.	Clear.
		12	89	100	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	87	98	S. W.	Ditto.
		8	60		Ditto.	Ditto.
	29	8	50	63	Calm.	White frost.
		12	69	81	Ditto.	Clear.
		4	57	61	N. W.	Cloudy.
		8	53		Ditto.	Clear.

Month.	Days.	Hours	Thermom. in the shade.	Therm. in the sun.	Winds.	Remarks on the weather.
Sept.	30	8	52	60	N. W.	Clear.
		12	70	83	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	68	76	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	60		Ditto.	Ditto.

OCTOBER.

Month.	Days.	Hours	Thermom. in the shade.	Therm. in the sun.	Winds.	Remarks on the weather.
Oct.	1	8	57	61	Calm.	Clear.
		12	70	87	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	70	86	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	61		Ditto.	Ditto.
	2	8	60	71	N. W.	Clear.
		12	72	80	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	70	80	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	57		Ditto.	Ditto.
	3	8	59	61	Calm.	Clouds in the S. E.
		12	70	80	Ditto.	Clear.
		4	68	79	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	57		Ditto.	Ditto.
	4	8	60	70	Calm.	Thunder clouds in the East.
		12	81	97	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	79	83	Ditto.	Clear.
		8	60		S. E.	Ditto.
	5	8	54	61	West.	Cloudy.
		12	61	65	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	60	64	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	52		N. W.	Clear.
	6	8	55	55	Calm.	Cloudy.
		12	61	62	Ditto.	Thunder to the Eastward.
		4	61	61	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	57		Ditto.	Cloudy.
	7	8	59	59	N. W.	Cloudy.
		12	70	80	Ditto.	Clear.
		4	65	70	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	57		Ditto.	Ditto.
	8	8	59	60	N. W.	Cloudy.
		12	65	69	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	60	61	Ditto.	Ditto, with small rain.
		8	55		Ditto.	Ditto.
	9	8	57	57	N. W.	Cloudy.
		12	60	60	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	60	60	Ditto.	Ditto; at six in the evening heavy rain.
		8	54		Ditto.	Ditto.

Month	Days.	Hours	Thermom. in the shade.	Therm. in the sun.	Winds.	Remarks on the weather.
Oct.	10	8	57	56	N. W.	Cloudy.
		12	60	60	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	57	58	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	54		Ditto.	Ditto.
	11	8	56	58	S. W.	Clouds to the Westward.
		12	67	71	Ditto.	Clear.
		4	65	70	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	50		Ditto.	Cloudy.
	12	8	54	54	West.	Cloudy.
		12	71	71	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	69	69	Ditto.	Ditto; with several loud claps of thunder.
		8	57		Ditto.	Clear.
	13	8	57	61	N. W.	Clear.
		12	68	74	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	65	68	North.	Cloudy.
		8	53		Ditto.	Thunder.
	14	8	53	59	S. E.	Clear; in the night a strong dew.
		12	71	89	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	64	70	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	59		Ditto.	Ditto.
	15	8	59	67	S. E.	Clear.
		12	68	75	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	68	69	Ditto.	Cloudy.
		8	57		S. W.	Clear.
	16	8	57	57	West.	Cloudy.
		12	61	70	Ditto.	Clear.
		4	60	69	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	53		Ditto.	Ditto.
	17	8	61	68	West.	Heavy clouds of mist upon the hills.
		12	73	80	Ditto.	Clear.
		4	69	76	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	60		Ditto.	Ditto.
	18	8	62	62	West.	Small rain.
		12	74	76	Ditto.	Hazy.
		4	70	76	Ditto.	Clear.
		8	61		Ditto.	Clouds to the Westward.
	19	8	69	69	S. E.	Cloudy.
		12	78	88	Ditto.	Clear.
		4	78	85	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	63		Ditto.	Ditto.

Month	Days.	Hours	Thermom. in the shade.	Therm. in the sun.	Winds.	Remarks on the weather.
Oct.	20	8	65	65	S. E.	Cloudy.
		12	76	75	Ditto.	Cloudy, with small rain.
		4	73	74	Ditto.	Hazy.
		8	67		Ditto.	Clear.
	21	8	67	71	N. W.	Clear.
		12	80	90	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	79	88	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	67		Ditto.	Ditto.
	22	8	57	57	N. W.	Cloudy.
		12	69	80	Ditto.	Clear.
		4	68	74	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	57		Ditto.	Ditto.
	23	8	57	56	N. W.	Cloudy.
		12	70	80	Ditto.	Clear.
		4	68	71	Ditto.	Ditto; at five, (p. m.) rain.
		8	54		Ditto.	Rain.
	24	8	50	50	N. W.	Heavy rain; several showers of sleet and snow.
		12	50	48, exposed	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	47	46	North.	Ditto.
		8	43		Ditto.	Squally.
	25	8	52	53	S. E.	White frost.
		12	58	61	Ditto.	Clear.
		4	56	60	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	50		Ditto.	Ditto.
	26	8	57	61	East.	Clear.
		12	68	70	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	67	68	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	59		Ditto.	Ditto.
	27	8	54	57	N. E.	Heavy dew.
		12	63	68	Ditto.	Clear.
		4	62	66	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	53		Ditto.	Ditto.
	28	8	57	58	N. E.	Thunder.
		12	70	80	East.	Clear.
		4	70	78	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	60		Ditto.	Ditto.
	29	8	58	63	East.	Fine.
		12	69	78	S. E.	Ditto.
		4	67	70	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	57		Ditto.	Cloudy.

Month.	Days.	Hours	Thermom. in the shade.	Therm. in the sun	Winds.	Remarks on the weather.
Oct.	30	8	60	67	S. E.	Clear.
		12	78	82	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	76	82	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	62		Ditto.	Ditto.
	31	8	57	63	S. E.	Clear.
		12	72	82	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	69	78	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	59		Ditto.	Ditto.

NOVEMBER.

Month.	Days.	Hours.	Thermom. in the shade.	Therm. in the sun.	Winds.	Remarks on the weather.
Nov.	1	8	58	57	S. E.	Cloudy.
		12	61	70	Ditto.	Clear.
		4	59	60	Ditto.	Cloudy.
		8	57		Ditto.	Clear.
	2	8	57	60	S. E.	Clear.
		12	60	68	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	58	60	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	55		Ditto.	Ditto.
	3	8	56	59	S. E.	Clear.
		12	60	70	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	58	63	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	56		Ditto.	Ditto.
	4	8	58	60	S. E.	Clear.
		12	60	70	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	56	58	Ditto.	Cloudy.
		8	55		Ditto.	Ditto, with small rain.
	5	8	57	60	South.	Clear.
		12	60	70	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	58	63	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	54		Ditto.	Ditto.
	6	8	59	68	South.	Clear.
		12	67	71	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	63	69	Ditto.	Cloudy.
		8	54		Ditto.	Clear.
	7	8	59	63	S. W.	Clear.
		12	68	73	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	63	69	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	59		Ditto.	Ditto.
	8	8	57	60	S. W.	Clear.
		12	69	78	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	65	70	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	54		Ditto.	Ditto.
	9	8	56	61	S. W.	Clear.
		12	63	70	West.	Ditto.
		4	60	67	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	57		Ditto.	Ditto.

Month.	Days.	Hours	Thermom. in the shade.	Therm. in the sun.	Winds.	Remarks on the weather.
Nov.	10	8	58	58	S. W.	Cloudy.
		12	67	73	Ditto.	Clear.
		4	64	69	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	55		Ditto.	Ditto.
	11	8	52	52	N. W.	Cloudy.
		12	61	61	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	61	63	Ditto.	Clear.
		8	57		Ditto.	Ditto.
	12	8	60	70	N. W.	Clear.
		12	67	79	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	64	68	North.	Ditto.
		8	57		Ditto.	Ditto.
	13	8	63	71	Calm.	Clear.
		12	70	81	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	67	74	N. W.	Ditto.
		8	60		Ditto.	Ditto.
	14	8	65	65	N. W.	Cloudy.
		12	75	75	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	72	71	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	67		Ditto.	Ditto.
	15	8	67	67	N. W.	Thunder and cloudy.
		12	91	99	Ditto.	Clear, with thunder to the N.
		4	89	93	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	70		Ditto.	Ditto.
	16	8	57	57	N. W.	Cloudy, with small rain.
		12	62	59, exposed	Ditto.	Ditto.
		4	59	59	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	53		Ditto.	Ditto.
	17	8	58	58	West.	Cloudy and fair.
		12	62	68	Ditto.	Clear.
		4	57	57	N. W.	Heavy rain.
		8	50		S. W.	Clouds to the Westward.
	18	8	52	54	N. W.	In the morning, dew.
		12	53	60	Ditto.	Clear.
		4	51	57	Ditto.	Ditto.
		8	50		Ditto.	Ditto.

A P P E N D I X.

ANIMAL POISONS.

AS the subject of poisons is one of the most interesting branches of natural history, I am induced to add to the preceding pages a few facts which came under my own observation while I resided in Africa and the East Indies, where it is well known that both the animal and vegetable kingdoms abound with a variety of productions unfriendly to the human frame.

The vegetable poisons of Africa have been already noticed; but I have been less copious in the remarks on the poisonous snakes of that country. To these, therefore, I shall first and principally call the attention of the reader; and being but little conversant in zoology, I shall, in my description, retain the names by which they are distinguished in their native regions.

The Horned Snake, is the most poisonous of these reptiles: it is of a greyish colour, and about eighteen inches long: its head, which is very flat, is large in proportion to the size of the body, with small scales, which the inhabitants call horns, rising over its eyes.

This serpent, so truly formidable from the mortal nature of its bite, particularly abounds in the country of the Boshmen and Nimiqua Hottentots, who use its poison, in preference to that of all others, for poisoning their arrows. The Boshmen, indeed, who have no cattle of their own, and depend entirely on their bows for subsistence, seem to have been furnished by Nature with this poison as their only defence against their numerous enemies. Impelled by hunger, they often quit the mountains and plunder the Dutch peasants of their cattle; and were it not for these poisonous weapons they would be unable to withstand or escape from the parties which in these cases are sent against them; but thus armed, several of the Dutch have been killed, and many have barely escaped with life from their wounds.

The usual mode of preparing this poison, is by bruising the whole snake till it becomes of the consistence of a gum: a small quantity of this substance is then tied on the point of the arrow with small sinews: two or more barbs are formed in the arrow to prevent its quitting the flesh.

This poison is sometimes mixed with others, to form a preparation called Rot Poison, which, as I was informed by a peasant of the country, produces mortification without much pain. The wife of a Dutch peasant, travelling to the Cape, was attacked in the night by a party of Boshmen, who came to steal her cattle; she received a wound from an arrow on her shoulder; and so rapid was the effect of the poison, that before she

reached the Cape, her breasts came off, and a cure was impossible. This and many other instances have been related to me by the country people. I shall not attempt to vouch for the truth of them; but they are generally believed at the Cape. Many Hottentots die of the bite of poisonous serpents; but I have seen several who had recovered; though, from what I could learn, they had no mode of cure but the actual cautery.

The Koufe Band, or Garter Snake, is another of the poisonous reptiles of that country: it is particularly dangerous to travellers, as it resembles the foil so much in colour, that it is not readily perceived. The Koufe Band is small, and seldom exceeds eighteen inches in length. I imagine it to be the Covra Manilla of the East Indies. This tribe is said to occasion almost instant death. But as all snakes lose a considerable portion of their poisonous quality by repeating their bite, there may be times when the poison is not so strong, or so mortal. I had an opportunity of seeing a farmer at the hot baths near the Cape, who had been bitten by a Koufe Band in the foot. For some time after the circumstance happened, he found great benefit from bathing the wounded part with cold water, mixed with a large quantity of salt. When I saw him he had been lame for two years. Whenever he took much exercise it occasioned a swelling in the leg, to which the warm bath afforded a temporary relief.

The Yellow Snake, which differs only in colour from the Covra Capella, or Hooded Snake of India, is frequently found

here. Though extremely poisonous, their size and bright yellow colour renders it easy to avoid them. They are from four to eight feet in length. The Yellow Snake is mostly found in rat-holes. After eating these animals, which form the chief part of its food, it takes possession of their holes : this renders it dangerous for travellers to lie down in any place where there are traces of this destructive reptile.

The Hottentots procure the poison of this snake by dissecting the bag from its mouth, and dipping sinews, which they afterwards tie on the points of their arrows, in the liquid it contains.

The Puff Adder, which has its name from blowing itself up to near a foot in circumference, is of a greyish colour, and about three feet and a half in length : it is considerably thicker than any I ever saw in that country : its head is large and flat ; the poison-teeth about an inch long, and hooked. The Puff Adder is extremely dangerous to cattle. In one of my excursions in the country, a horse of mine was bit by one of them in the mouth, while grazing, and survived the wound but two days.

The Spring Adder is a very dangerous, but uncommon snake ; it is jet black, with white spots, from three to four feet long, and proportionably thick. When Colonel Gordon (now Commander in chief at the Cape) was in that country, in the year seventeen hundred and seventy-five, he mentioned to me a circumstance of his having met two slave boys

chased by a Spring Adder, which seemed to be gaining ground upon them, when he shot it through the middle.

The Night Snake, which is more beautiful than any of the others, is from eighteen to twenty inches long, and very thin: it is belted with black, red, and yellow; and when near, at night, has the appearance of fire. The Hottentots call it Killmen.

These six species of serpents, about the Cape of Good Hope, I had the opportunity of seeing; and brought home specimens of most of them, preserved in spirits, for further inspection. I however regret much that as my chief object was the collection of plants, I had it not in my power to remain long enough in any one place to make such experiments on their several poisons as might have enabled me to have given a clear account of their effects from my own observation. There are, I have no doubt, many other snakes in that country with which we are as yet unacquainted. One, which is called the Spoog Slang, or Spitting Snake, has been mentioned to me by the inhabitants of the country, who say it will throw its poison to the distance of several yards; and that people have been blinded by them; but this never came under my own inspection.

The Black, or Rock Scorpion, is nearly as venomous as any of the serpent tribe. A farmer who resided at a place, called the Parle, near the Cape, was stung by one in the foot, during my stay in the country, and died in a few hours.

Doctor Syde, one of the Cape physicians, informed me that several people had been brought to him stung by scorpions, and that he found oil to be the best antidote he ever tried. The natives of India hold the part wounded as near to a fire as possible, for a considerable time, which, they say, produces a perfect cure.

I shall here add a few observations which occurred to me while serving in the southern army in the East Indies, respecting some of our soldiers who were bitten by snakes in that campaign.

The southern countries of Indostan abound with the small snake, called the Covra Manilla, which is well known to be very poisonous. The Bramins tell us, that they can administer complete relief in the most desperate cases; but their mode of practice has hitherto been kept a secret from Europeans. Colonel Fullarton, however, procured a small box of their pills from the reverend Mr. Swartz, a missionary at Tanjore; and at the siege of Carrore we had an opportunity of proving the effects of them. One of our seapoys was bitten, and so ill that we despaired of his life. The colonel gave him one of the pills, which seemed to act as a very strong opiate for some time, and threw him into a delirium; in two days, however, the man was perfectly recovered.

We had also a second proof of their utility, though the man did not appear to be so ill as on the former occasion. I was

witness to a third case, where we could not procure these pills. A servant of Lieutenant Smith, in the same regiment with myself, was bitten. The lieutenant gave him nothing but brandy and hot Madeira wine, and kept him in a state of intoxication for twenty-four hours; the next day the pain was gone, but the man continued indisposed for some time.

A soldier in the seventy-eighth regiment, after a wound from a serpent, was so ill that his whole body was discoloured, and he was considered as incurable by all the surgeons in the army. In this case we could not have recourse to the Bramin's pills; and it was thought that nothing but the strength of his constitution could have saved him.

Another circumstance, respecting the bite of snakes, which happened near Bengal, will not, I flatter myself, be deemed unworthy of attention: when a brigade was cantoned, the houses had not been inhabited for some time before. Soon after they went in, there were some men found dead in the morning; for which fact they were totally unable to account. The disaster, however, was soon discovered to proceed from the bite of snakes. On searching, they found vast numbers of these animals in the holes of the mud-walls; the greatest part of which they killed. They were then advised to lay a quantity of onions and garlick about their rooms, in the inside; and after that, no further trace of them were perceived.

It is much to be wished that any certain remedy for the bite

of those poisonous animals could be discovered, and such as might be carried in the traveller's pocket, when proceeding on a long journey. Botanists, or naturalists, are more exposed than any other class of men, as they are constantly wandering in the fields among shrubs and grass, where they cannot discover those reptiles so readily as those who confine themselves to beaten paths. It is seldom they can carry a bed with them; and when lying on the ground they are in danger of turning themselves on those venomous creatures, who often creep near the human body for the sake of warmth. It is not uncommon for them to get into beds, as I have myself observed in the East Indies.

VEGETABLE POISONS.

THOUGH there are few countries in the world which abound more with deleterious vegetables than the country adjacent to the Cape of Good Hope, yet the principal danger, to the traveller, results from the animated part of the creation ; he can always avoid the one, when he cannot apprehend the other. I am only acquainted with four of the former kind, which are commonly employed as instruments of destruction.

The first is a large bulbous plant, *Amaryllis Difticha*, which is called Mad Poison, from the effects usually produced on the animals which are wounded by the weapons impregnated with it. The natives prepare this poison in the following manner : They take the bulbs, about the time when they are putting out their leaves, and cutting them transversely, extract a thick fluid, which is kept in the sun till it becomes quite of the consistence of gum. It is then put up for use ; and the method of laying it on their arrows has been already described.

The hunters employ this species of poison chiefly for the purpose of killing such animals as are intended for food, such as antelopes and other small quadrupeds. After they are wounded, they can, and do in general, run for several miles ; and it fre-

quently happens that they are not found till the next day, notwithstanding the poisonous substance having penetrated the muscular parts.

When the leaves of this plant are young, the cattle are very fond of them, though they are instant death ; the farmers therefore are very cautious not to suffer them to enter into the tracts which are suspected of producing this plant.

The second is a species of *Euphorbia*, which is found in that part of the country which is inhabited by Boshmen, and in the Great Nimiqua Land. The gum of this is also used for arrows ; but the plant is more commonly used for poisoning the water where the animals resort to drink ; and a stranger who travels in that country, must be very careful in examining the spring before he drinks.

This plant grows from about fifteen to twenty feet in height, sending out many branches full of strong spines. The natives cut off as many of the branches as they think necessary for the destruction of the animals they intend to poison. They generally conduct the water a few yards from the spring into a pit made for the purpose ; after which they put in the *Euphorbia*, and cover the spring, so that the creatures have no choice : and in that country water is very scarce ; sometimes it is twenty miles from one spring of water to another.

The only animal I ever saw poisoned by this means, was a

Zebra ; it had scarcely proceeded half a mile from the water before it dropped ; and I was assured by the natives, that none escaped which drank of such water, though they declared the flesh was not injured by the poison.

The third vegetable poison proceeds from a species of *Rhus*, which is only found near the Great River, or Orange River ; and is said to be very dangerous. When this poison is extracting, the operators cover their eyes, as the least drop touching that organ would certainly deprive them of sight. It is sometimes used for arrows.

The fourth is the only poison really useful to the European inhabitants ; it is a small shrubby plant, producing a nut, called by the Dutch, Woolf Gift, or Wolf Poison, which they use for poisoning the Hyenas.

The method of preparing this, is by taking the nuts and roasting them as they do coffee, after which they pulverize them : they afterwards take some pieces of meat, or a dead dog, which they stuff full of the powder, and throw them into the fields. The voracious Hyenas meeting with any thing of this kind, soon devour it, and in general are found dead the following day.

THE END.

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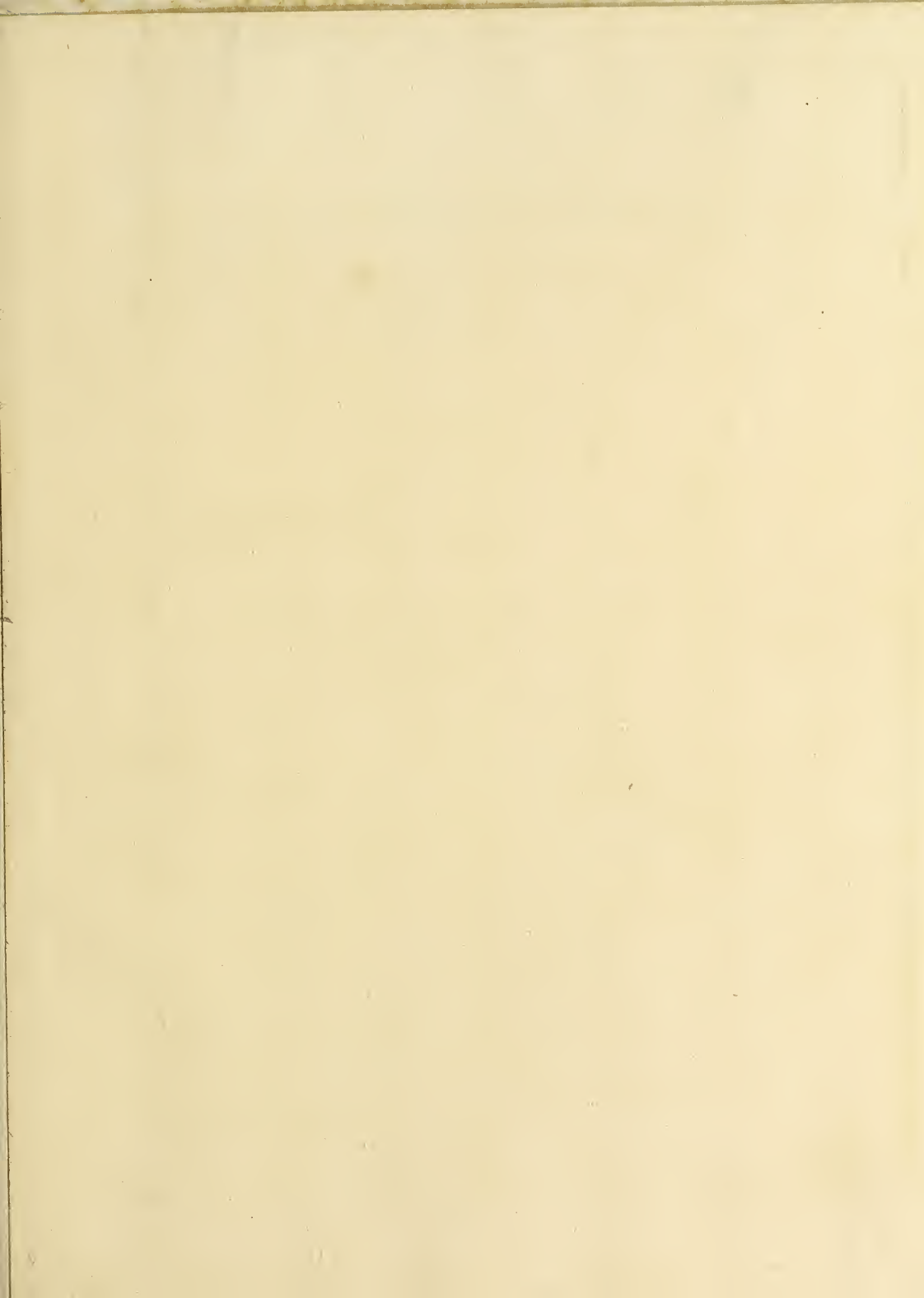


E R R A T A.

- Page 6, line 1, *for* Extim, *read* Extin.
 20, line 1, *for* Swillenden, *read* Swellendam. *For* Lend, *read* Land.
 21, line 3, *for* Helenedas, *read* Helianthus.
 37, line 16, *for* Amyrilas, *read* Amaryllis.
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 131, line 21, *for* proves, *read* prove.
 132, line 10, *for* Abert Honna Cambt, *read* Albert Hanna Camp.
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-

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Note. L. Paterson's route is described by the plain line
D. Spurrman's by the pecked line

